



Peace visitor

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Shilo cursed

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An 'official' Hebrew course opens in Soviet republic

By CHARLES HOFFMAN

Jerusalem Post Reporter
The recent opening of officially-sanctioned Hebrew courses in Baku, in the Soviet Republic of Azerbaijan, may be an important step for Jewish culture in the Soviet Union, according to a government source familiar with Soviet Jewish affairs.

The organizers received permission to hold the courses in a railroad workers' club, and an announcement about the courses was published in the newspaper of the Azerbaijan Republic.

One of the organizers, Vladimir Farber, reported this week to the Soviet Jewry Information Centre in Jerusalem that more than 70 people have signed up for the courses.

During the past year, the Soviet authorities stopped harassing Jews holding informal Hebrew lessons or study sessions on Jewish history and culture. But until now permission to use the facilities of public institutions to hold such classes has been denied.

Two months ago the authorities in Moscow turned down requests by Yosef Begun and Yuli Kosharovsky to be registered as Hebrew teachers.

President Reagan meanwhile, has assured Jewish leaders that he would press the cause of Jewish emigration during his upcoming summit with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, according to Morris Abram, the chairman of the National Conference on Soviet Jewry.

Abram and 11 others met with Reagan on Tuesday to discuss his summit with Gorbachev on December 7-10. The group also discussed its planned pre-summit demonstration in Washington to press for improved treatment and emigration for Soviet Jews.

New Tunisian president wants PLO to leave

The new Tunisian regime, headed by President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali, wants the PLO to remove its military headquarters and forces from the country. Prime Minister Al-hadi Bakoush said this week in an interview with the Cairo weekly *Al-Mussawat*.

The new premier outlined the future plans of his government, which 10 days ago overthrew President Habib Bourguiba.

He said he hoped Yasser Arafat understands that changes are due in the relations with the PLO. He added, however, that the new regime has no intention of adversely affecting the political presence of the PLO, emphasizing that it would extend every assistance to Arafat.

When asked why he referred only to Arafat, he replied that he "recognized him only as the representative of Palestine."

Some of the leaders who recently attained power have harshly criticized Bourguiba for permitting the PLO to establish a military headquarters in Tunisia, which resulted in the attack by the Israeli Air Force which struck at Tunisia's sovereignty and pride.

After the attack, Bourguiba ordered the removal of the political and military headquarters of the PLO from Tunisia and the expulsion of Arafat. But a year ago, he reversed this decision under pressure from the Gulf states which threatened to cut off their subsidies to Tunisia.



'NO COMMENT' says U.S. President Reagan photographed at the White House yesterday after publication of the Congressional report on the Iran-Contra affair. (Reuters)

State Department urges Israel not to expel Awad

By JOEL GREENBERG, BENNY MORRIS and WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Staff

The State Department yesterday urged the Israeli government not to expel Mubarak Awad, a naturalized American citizen of Palestinian descent, from the West Bank. Awad, an advocate of nonviolent protest, meanwhile vowed he would remain in the territories.

"Mr. Awad is a leading advocate of change through non-violence in the occupied territories, and in our view, he has served as a moderating influence in a potentially volatile area," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said.

"We have made our views very clear to the government of Israel concerning his case," he continued. "It would be regrettable if the Israeli government does in fact expel him. We believe that the principles of peaceful change and nonviolence in the occupied territories deserve strong support and encouragement."

Redman said the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv was closely following the case. "They have made our views known to the Israeli government," he said. "We'll continue to do that."

Meanwhile, Awad, who has been ordered to leave the country by tomorrow, said he might take refuge in a mosque, church or synagogue to avoid deportation.

Senior Foreign Ministry officials, in a bid to avoid a head-on clash with the U.S., are trying to get the Interior Ministry to reverse its decision not to extend Awad's tourist visa. The move was made at the behest of the Defence Ministry and the security services.

Awad told an East Jerusalem press conference that, if deported, he would attempt to return by ship or even sailboat from Cyprus. "I will not give up," he declared to a crowd of journalists and supporters at the Palestinian Centre for the Study of Nonviolence, which he heads.

Awad said he said would use non-

violent tactics if police came to deport him. "They're going to have to drag me, to take me by force to the plane... If there is a church, mosque or synagogue willing to take me when the heat comes on, then I'm willing to do that."



Mubarak Awad at his press conference in Jerusalem yesterday. (Media)

In a rare gesture, Edwin Cubbison, deputy to the U.S. consul-general in Jerusalem, spoke at the press conference and reiterated the concern of his government over the moves to deport Awad.

"We hope and believe some way will be found to enable him to remain here," he said.

Israeli sources termed Cubbison's statement at the press conference "highly irregular" and "beyond his authority," saying it amounted to intervention in Israel's internal affairs. The sources said the Foreign Ministry "is checking into it," implying that Israel might lodge a low-grade protest to the U.S.

Attorney Jonathan Kuttab, who represents Awad, told the press conference that "in this case, and in

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White House plays down severity of Iran-Contra findings

'If Reagan didn't know... he should have' -- report

WASHINGTON (Reuters). — The official Iran-Contra report from Congress, released yesterday, accuses President Reagan of "ultimate responsibility" for a scandal in which it says his aides broke laws, ran a secret foreign policy and tried to cover up their misdeeds.

Rounding out an exhaustive probe of the scandal that burst on Reagan a year ago, the 690-page final report on "the Iran-Contra affair" by Senate and House committees leaves unresolved the key issue of whether the president knew that profits from secret arms sales to Iran had been diverted to Nicaragua's Contra rebels.

But it adds: "If the president did not know... he should have."

"The ultimate responsibility for the events in the Iran-Contra affair must rest with the president," it says, asserting that he failed in his constitutional re-

sponsibility to uphold the law. "If the president did not know what his national security advisers were doing, he should have," says the report, which was endorsed unanimously by the Democratic majority on the House and Senate committees plus three of 11 Republican panel members.

Even before the report was issued — with the results of the biggest probe into possible presidential wrongdoing since the Watergate affair brought down Richard Nixon in 1974 — the White House was playing down its significance.

"There really isn't anything new in the report. The only (new) thing is the subjective conclusions of the committee members, and they are split," White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater told reporters two hours before the report was made public at 7 p.m. Israel time.

"The president did not violate any laws, even the majority report does not so state," the spokesman added.

Fitzwater said the report was the culmination of a "long summer of self-examination for America."

"And now we are through it, moving on, and we trust that out of this experience has come a new wisdom about the process of governing in America."

Reagan himself had no immediate comment on the report, but Fitzwater noted the president had already admitted mistakes were made and directed "orderly changes in government" to keep "these kinds of instances from happening again."

The long-awaited report — which was preceded by howls of dissent from the eight other committee Republicans, who called it an unfair indictment of Reagan — plunges the 76-year-old president back into political controversy just as he is about to don his statesman's cloak for a December 7 summit in Washington with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The report does not level specific criminal charges. That task remains for the secret federal grand jury investigation of special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh still under way.

But it names former National Security Council aide Oliver North

and his former boss Rear Admiral John Poindexter as the main figures running the secret effort to sell arms to anti-American Iran in 1985-86 and to support Nicaragua's Contras at a time when Congress had banned official U.S. aid to them.

The report concludes that the late chief of U.S. intelligence, William Casey, despite his denials, egged on North in these operations, and that Attorney General Edwin Meese ran an inept and clouded early inquiry into the scandal, which broke last November.

But most to the point for Reagan, who is trying to rally for the final year of a presidency reeling from political blows and economic turmoil, it accuses the president of fostering, either by carelessness or design, an anything-goes atmosphere for free-wheeling aides.

"Members of the National Security Council staff appeared to believe that their actions were consistent with the president's desires," the report continues.

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Congressional report relatively mild in criticism of Israel's involvement in the affair

'Israel proposed hostage deal, but North siphoned funds'

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — The long-awaited congressional report on the Iran-Contra affair contradicts Israel's version of events, concluding that it was Jerusalem that originally came up with the idea of exchanging arms to Iran for American hostages in Lebanon. Israel has maintained that it became involved in the arrangement only at the request of the U.S.

However, the 431-page majority report accepts Israel's contention that ousted National Security Council staffer Oliver North — and not Israel — initiated the idea of diverting profits from the Iranian arms sales to the Contra rebels in Nicaragua. North has maintained that Israel came up with that plan.

The report, released yesterday, is relatively mild in its overall criticism of Israel's involvement in the affair. It charges that "the ultimate responsibility" must rest with President Reagan.

The separate 259-page Republican minority report is considerably less critical of the president's role. At the same time, it is harsher in challenging Israel's version of the origin of the diversion scheme.

Nevertheless at a news conference later in the day, Democratic Senator Daniel Inouye of Hawaii, the chairman of the Senate panel, warmly praised Israel for cooperating with the congressional investigation. He said Israel made very secret and sensitive information available to the U.S.

Republican Senator Warren Rudman of Vermont, who supported the majority report, also said the factual and financial chronologies provided by Israel were very helpful to the committees in drafting their final report.

As reported Tuesday, the Republican report basically accepts North's sworn testimony that Amir Nir, the counter-terrorism adviser to then prime minister Shimon Peres, had concocted the scheme in early January 1986.

Both reports rely heavily on an official Israeli historical chronology which was submitted late last summer to the joint House-Senate panel. The majority report's preface notes that the committees received "unprecedented cooperation from a sovereign nation, the State of Israel. Although not willing to allow its officials to be examined, the government of Israel assembled and furnished the committees with

extensive materials and information, including information affecting its national security."

But in the process of submitting that material, Israel effectively undermined its own repeated contentions over the past year that it was totally unaware that profits from the Iranian sales were going to the Contras. Indeed, the Israeli chronology said North raised the issue with Israeli officials in New York on December 6, 1985.

According to the Israeli chronology, "North remarked to Israeli Ministry of Defence officials that he needed money and that he intended to divert profits from future Iranian transactions to Nicaragua." The chronology said one of the Israeli officials present took "contemporaneous" notes of the meeting, "recording North's comments." The two other Israeli officials at the meeting, which dealt mainly with other matters, did not recall the comment by North.

North, in his own sworn testimony before the committees last July, said Nir had proposed in early January 1986 that profits from the weapons transactions be used to help the Contras as well as other joint U.S.-

Israeli covert operations. He said he could not recall any mention of the diversion during the December 6 meeting.

The report says that Nir, starting in January 1986, also proposed to North a series of other covert operations that could be financed by the Iranian arms profits. "These would include gathering intelligence on terrorist groups, seeking the release of hostages, initiating and financing propaganda efforts that would be operated covertly," the report said.

In an interview published yesterday in *The New York Times*, Prime Minister Shamir said he had no regrets about Israel's involvement in the arms shipments to Iran.

He said that Israel was no longer selling weapons to Iran, but that he did not have any control over private Israeli businessmen, based outside Israel, who might be involved in arms transactions with Iran or other countries.

Regarding Israel's role in trading arms for American hostages, Shamir said: "It was done by a common decision of our cabinet and we are convinced that our policy was a correct one. We did it together with the United States, and I do not see any

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Washington readying to slash \$75 billion from budget

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congressional and White House negotiators expressed optimism yesterday that they'll be able to slash as much as \$75 billion from the federal deficit over the next two years.

"We're close enough where I don't believe we can miss," Republican Senator Pete Domenici said after negotiators completed their 17th day of bargaining.

Democratic congressman Thomas Foley, majority leader of the House of Representatives, said he was "more confident than ever we'll reach agreement" before tomorrow.

If no deal is reached by that day, the Gramm-Rudman deficit-reduction

law will automatically cut \$23 billion in federal spending this year, half from domestic and half from military programs.

White house budget director James Miller said: "I think we're making excellent progress." But some lawmakers expressed disappointment with the plan.

The deficit-reduction proposal would slice as much as \$30 billion from the shortfall in fiscal 1988, which began on October 1, and up to \$45 billion more in fiscal 1989.

Included in the plan are higher taxes: about \$9 billion this year and about \$19 billion more next year.

The specific taxes to be increased would be chosen later.

The package also would cut about \$4 billion off anticipated growth of medical, farm supports and several other benefit programmes, and about \$2.6 billion from spending on environmental, education and other domestic projects.

In addition, it would limit Defence Department spending to \$285.5 billion — well below the \$297 billion Reagan requested in January for this year.

Government officials have estimated that without steps to reduce the deficit, next year's red ink could be as much as \$180 billion. Last

year's deficit was \$148 billion.

Meanwhile, the dollar slipped in European trading yesterday after an influential American senator said he thought many of his Republican Party colleagues might not back the budget cutting plan. With dealers in most markets saying budget cuts were needed to restore confidence, Senator Robert Dole's remarks sent the dollar down and hit share prices in London and Wall Street. Other European and Asia exchanges had already closed. In a late afternoon sell-off in Europe, the dollar dropped 1-1/4 pennings and half a yen to close at 1.6850 West German marks and 135.25 yen.



Michael Graff (Reuters)

Austrian politician quits over anti-Semitic remark

VIENNA (Reuters). — A leading supporter of Austrian President Kurt Waldheim resigned yesterday after a row over an anti-Semitic comment he made about Waldheim's wartime activities.

Michael Graff, who quit as general-secretary of the conservative People's Party, was quoted in the latest edition of the French magazine *L'Express* as saying: "So long as it is not proven that (Waldheim) strangled six Jews with his own hands, no problem."

Graff's resignation was followed by that of another conservative politician who compared the campaign against Waldheim by the World Jewish Congress, which accuses him of war crimes, to the Jews' treatment of Christ.

Carl Hoedl, deputy mayor of Linz in upper Austria and also a member of the People's Party which backed Waldheim as a presidential candidate, made the comparison in a letter earlier this year to WJC President Edgar Bronfman. Announcing Hoedl's resignation, the provincial governor of upper Austria, Josef Ratzenboeck, said it was not linked to Graff's.

A six-member international commission of historians funded by the Austrian government is examining charges by the WJC that Waldheim was involved in war crimes while serving in the German Army during World War II.

Waldheim, a former UN secretary-general, denies the allegations. Graff's comments to *L'Express* brought protests from across the Austrian political spectrum.

Socialist Chancellor Franz Vranitzky said they went beyond acceptable limits and the People's Party chairman, Foreign Minister Alois Mock, said it had disturbed him.

Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal said it was an outrage for Graff to remain in office. That and the Hoedl case showed Austrians were willing to tolerate anti-Semitism in their politicians, he said.

Graff, 50, apologized for the remark, while Waldheim himself condemned Graff's comment. "This incident should remind us once again that human dignity must be the highest criterion for all our words and deeds," he said in a statement.

Norwegian heavy water said used for Dimona plutonium

By WOLF BLITZER

Jerusalem Post Correspondent
WASHINGTON. — Heavy water supplied to Israel by Norway went to the Dimona nuclear reactor, where it was used to make plutonium, a former Pentagon consultant on nuclear proliferation claimed in an article published yesterday.

Gary Milhollin, a professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School, also said that Norway had been officially informed by Israel on September 30 this year that the water, which was supplied in 1959 and 1970, wound up in Dimona. He said that Norway was now planning to formally ask Israel for permission to inspect the Dimona facility.

Israeli officials in Washington refused to comment on Milhollin's disclosures, which are contained in a lengthy article entitled "Heavy Wa-

ter Cheaters" appearing in the winter issue of *Foreign Policy*.

Last year, Milhollin — a former U.S. Defence Department employee — wrote an article suggesting that Israel had violated the terms of the secret agreement by using the heavy water to manufacture nuclear weapons.

As a result of his article, Norway raised the issue with Israel and asked the International Atomic Energy Agency to open an investigation into the allegations.

But, Milhollin wrote, a request from the IAEA to determine exactly how Israel used the 20 tons of heavy water supplied in 1959 and another ton supplied in 1970, was turned down by the government in Jerusalem, on the grounds that the international agency had a biased attitude towards Israel.

10 die in London underground fire

LONDON (Reuters). — At least 10 people were killed and 50 seriously injured when choking smoke from a fire poured through a crowded underground railway station at King's Cross station, in central London yesterday, police said.

Several hundred people were trapped for nearly an hour in a train full of swirling acid smoke before being rescued by firemen in breathing apparatus.

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The weather at major Swissair destinations

18.11.87	MIN.	MAX.	C	F	W
AMSTERDAM	8	11	52	52	Cloudy
BRUSSELS	8	11	52	52	Cloudy
MUNICH	12	18	54	64	Clear
CHICAGO	10	18	50	64	Cloudy
COPENHAGEN	7	10	45	50	Cloudy
FRANKFURT	7	10	45	50	Cloudy
GENOVA	8	11	46	53	Rain
HELSINKI	6	10	43	50	Cloudy
HONG KONG	22	28	72	82	Cloudy
JOHANNESBURG	17	23	63	73	Clear
LONDON	13	18	55	64	Clear
LYON	8	12	46	54	Cloudy
MADRID	10	18	50	64	Clear
MONTREAL	2	8	36	43	Cloudy
NEW YORK	8	12	46	54	Cloudy
OSLO	8	12	46	54	Cloudy
PARIS	8	12	46	54	Cloudy
SAO PAULO	19	26	66	79	Rain
STOCKHOLM	1	4	34	39	Rain
TOKYO	11	18	52	64	Clear
ZURICH	1	4	34	39	Cloudy

*For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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Haifa: 2000, 24-25-26
Eilat: 2000, 24-25-26
Gaza: 2000, 24-25-26

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy with a drop in temperatures.

Yesterday's	Yesterday's	Today's
Humidity	Min-Max	Min-Max
Jerusalem	28	12-23
Golan	35	18-24
Nahariya	35	18-24
Haifa Port	43	18-24
Tiberias	35	16-27
Nazareth	38	18-26
Afula	32	11-28
Sborton	40	15-24
Tel Aviv	75	16-24
B-G Airport	52	11-26
Jericho	10	12-28
Gaza	75	17-25
Beersheba	29	13-26
Eilat	16	14-30

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

A delegation from the U.S. department of energy yesterday visited the Weizmann Institute of Science, was received by its president, Prof. Aryeh Dvoretzky, and toured a solar research installation with Prof. Israel Dostrovsky. Members of the delegation included Mr. David Waller, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Energy Emergencies; Dr. Harold Jaffe, Director of International Energy Cooperation; Mr. Miles Greenbaum, International Program Manager, Office of Fossil Energy; Dr. Fred Morse, Director, Solar Heat Technology Office; and Ms. Katherine Keane, Special Assistant to David Waller. Accompanying the delegation was Mr. Bud Rock, Scientific Counsellor of the American Embassy, and officials of the Israel Ministry of Energy headed by its director-general, Dr. Nathan Arad.

ARRIVALS

World WIZO President Raya Jaglom from Paris, where she addressed a festive gathering of French WIZO, at which the most of honour was Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek.

Seymour Reich, President of B'nai B'rith International, and Dr. Daniel Thurn, Executive Vice-President, for the convention of B'nai B'rith Europe, to participate in the Executive Committee Meeting of the International Council of B'nai B'rith (Chairman: Georges Bloch, France), and for meetings with Israeli leaders.

Lewinsky candidacy for WZO puts Labour on the spot

By CHARLES ROFTMAN

A top-level Labour Party team was set up yesterday to find a way out of the deadlock created by Akiva Lewinsky's candidacy for the post of chairman of the World Zionist Organization, and will probably look for another candidate to replace him.

The six-member team, headed by party secretary Uzi Baram, was set up at a meeting of party leaders convened yesterday by party leader Shimon Peres, according to a participant in the meeting.

Peres said it was crucial for Labour not to jeopardize its chances of winning the chairmanship of the WZO at the forthcoming Zionist Congress, and to avoid a confrontation with the American fund-raisers. The latter rejected Lewinsky's candidacy several weeks ago. Other Labour figures being mooted for the post are Mordechai Gur and Simcha Dinitz.

Lewinsky told his colleagues he believed that various options for bolstering his candidacy had not been examined thoroughly by the party, and that he had no intention of shirking his responsibility to the party central committee that nominated him.

The top-level team is composed of Peres, Baram, Lewinsky, Masha Lubelsky of Na'amat, Yeshayahu Perry of the United Kibbutz Movement and Labour Zionist head Yehiel Leket. The team is expected to come up with a solution by next week, soon after Peres returns from abroad.

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HOME NEWS

Rabin: years of peace have altered M.E. power balance

By BRADLEY BURSTON

RAFAH. — The 10-year peace with Egypt, and its military-strategic consequences, have "significantly altered the Middle East balance of power in Israel's favour," Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin said yesterday.

Touring the border here to commemorate the anniversary of Sadat's visit to Israel, Rabin declared that while many of the hopes for normal relations raised by the visit have not been realized, Egypt has effectively placed itself "outside the circle of nations at war with Israel." He added that the peace with Egypt has allowed Israel to maintain a relatively small military force along the longer than 200 km. border, even though much of the boundary stands unfenced.

On the results of the recent Amman Arab summit, Rabin said the talks served to reinforce the Egypt-Israel peace process, both because of the multiple resumption of diplomatic relations with an Egypt that had not recanted its ties with Israel, and because "Iran, and not Israel,



Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin during his tour of the southern border yesterday (David Weisfish)

was seen as the principal threat to the Arab world."

Rabin was accompanied on the tour by OC Southern Command

Aluf Yitzhak Mordechai, who lauded Egyptian efforts to keep the border free of security problems, and noted that since before his assumption of the Southern Command last year, not a single bullet has been fired along the Rafiah-Eilat boundary.

According to figures presented by Mordechai's staff, Egypt's military deployment in Sinai is substantially smaller than the maximal level of forces allowed by the peace treaty.

During the tour, reporters were shown a smuggling tunnel discovered by Egyptian border police who immediately disclosed it to Israeli authorities.

Mordechai's staff also confirmed that Egypt had recently returned to Israel cars stolen prior to 1982, buried in the dunes of Sinai, and dug up after the return of the peninsula to Egypt. The cars were found in Cairo and other cities, where they were being driven with false licence plates.

Among the vehicles returned was a massive Caterpillar tractor stolen from the Ma'atz public works department several years ago.

Khalil gets an earful of Israeli views

By ELAINE RUTH FLETCHER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HERZLIYA. — The Israeli opposition to an international conference constitutes an "unjustified hypochondria" reflecting a Jewish legacy that tends to be more sensitive to danger than to opportunity, said MK Abba Eban yesterday at a luncheon here marking former Egyptian president Anwar Sadat's visit to Jerusalem 10 years ago today.

Minister-without-Portfolio Ezer Weizman told visiting Egyptian dignitary Mustapha Khalil that the Arab world should come to a consensus following the Amman summit on who would represent the Palestinians in an international peace conference.

"With UN Resolutions 242 and 338, I'm willing to talk to the PLO. But will King Hussein accept it?" asked Weizman.

Khalil, who is currently the number two man in Egypt's ruling party, said it is not the question of Palestin-

ian representation, but Israeli opposition to the international conference, that constitutes the main stumbling block now in the peace process.

Khalil noted that, at the recent Amman conference, 21 Arab nations had for the first time endorsed a solution of the Palestinian problem through negotiations and through an international peace conference.

Eban stressed that Israeli fears concerning an international conference are unjustified. "We do not have traumatic experiences at international conferences. They fall into two categories: those which have done good and those which have done no harm."

While levelling more than a few verbal volleys at the Israeli right, Eban chided Egypt in the gentlest terms for the present cold peace between Cairo and Jerusalem.

"The more Egypt gives reality, warmth and depth to the peace treat-

ty, the easier it is to convince Israel it is worthwhile," said Eban. "Peace must be romanticized, dramatized, and given a rhapsodical character."

He praised Egypt's "tenacious maintenance" of the treaty even in the face of boycott and disapproval from the Arab world, and welcomed the restoration of diplomatic ties between Egypt and moderate Arab states as proof of the "total indispensability of Cairo" to the Arab world.

Khalil, meanwhile, noted that Egypt paid a price for the peace treaty in a decade of Arab world hostility, which he felt on a personal level as well.

"Until now I have eight guards in my apartment building. My personal freedom has been restricted," said Khalil.

"But I have never regretted it," he added, speaking warmly of Israeli leaders such as Weizman, with whom he had formed personal friendships.

Verdiger sees universities as dens of iniquity

By ASHER WALLFISH

Post Knesset Correspondent

"Israel's universities are dens of iniquity where drugs, lewdness and prostitution are rife," Morasha MK Avraham Verdiger declared yesterday in the Knesset Interior Committee.

Verdiger spoke in an abortive bid to revoke last week's committee decision under which the Symbols and Flag Law would require the national flag to be flown at yeshivot that receive financial aid from the government, as it is at universities.

Verdiger's remark was struck from the minutes of the session after the MK refused to accede to acting

chairman Ovadia Eli's demand that he retract it.

Eli was also incensed by Verdiger's warning that if the obligation were imposed on the yeshivot, they would simply ignore it, even if it meant breaking the law.

"Your threats are out of place here, as a Knesset member," thundered Eli. "The penalties for violation of the law will be invoked, I can assure you."

Both Eli and the original author of the flag proposal, Shmuel Amnon Rubinstein, said they wanted to go on record as saying there was no link intended between the receipt of Treasury subventions and the flying

of the blue and white flag.

Rubinstein, told reporters that since the demand of the yeshivot for Treasury funds, was based on the argument that they deserved equal financial aid with the universities, they had no right to shrug off the national obligations assumed by the universities.

Rubinstein later accused his former Shinui colleague Mordechai Virshubsky, now in the Citizens Rights Movement, of adopting an "assinine and nitpicking stance" by supporting Verdiger, on the argument that for yeshivot the flying of the flag should be a matter of conscience, not coercion.

Milo tells Labour how to talk to Hussein

BY DVORAH GETZLER

Post Knesset Reporter

The Likud partners to the national unity government yesterday returned Foreign Minister Shimon Peres the slap in the face he had administered to them earlier in the week.

"Had it not been for the idea of the international conference," Deputy Minister Ronni Milo hurled at the Labour benches, "King Hussein and Premier Yitzhak Shamir would be able to sit down and negotiate today."

"Get off that rotting and dangerous tree that you have climbed on. And get off quickly, before it is too late."

Milo was responding to charges made by Peres Monday that all talk of peace was coming from the Arab side, while all Israel was saying was "Nyet, nyet, nyet!" He was replying to a number of motions for the agenda on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of Anwar Sadat's visit to the Knesset.

It was significant, Milo said, that the Arab summit in Amman last week, which had more or less coincided with this anniversary, should have been the gathering to officially permit Arab states to re-establish diplomatic relations with Egypt.

"That, said Milo, amounted to a *de facto* recognition of the Israeli-Egyptian peace. Perhaps the decision had been made because there was no choice, but for all that it was a recognition of the facts."

Hussein, Milo insisted, was ready for talks with Israel, but it suited him better to shelter behind the idea of the international conference simply because that idea had been broached, and it would certainly prove easier on Jordan than direct talks.

Milo emphasized that it was a Likud government that had brought peace with Egypt. And the Likud can bring peace with Jordan, too, he said, but only by direct talks.

In light of the importance of the issue, Milo agreed and the house voted that the matter be brought up soon for a full plenum debate.

IN BRIEF

U.S. denies report of long-term aid to Israel

WASHINGTON. — The Reagan administration yesterday categorically denied a press report that the U.S. and Israel had discussed the signing of a memorandum of understanding which would guarantee long-term U.S. assistance levels to Israel in exchange for Israel's participation in an international conference on the Middle East.

"There has been no such proposal," State Department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters.

IDF probe of conditions at West Bank prison

The IDF judge advocate general has appointed a team to investigate interrogation methods and conditions at the Far'a prison in the West Bank, following recommendations in the secret annex to the Landau Commission report on the Shin Bet.

The formation of the inquiry team was reported yesterday by the Attorney-General's Office during a hearing at the High Court of Justice on a petition by three Palestinian youths who charged they had been tortured at Far'a.

Striking journalists urge colleagues abroad to help

Striking Israeli journalists last night called on their colleagues in the U.S. and Europe to refrain from conducting interviews with Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Peres while they are abroad.

State responds today on Shin Bet case

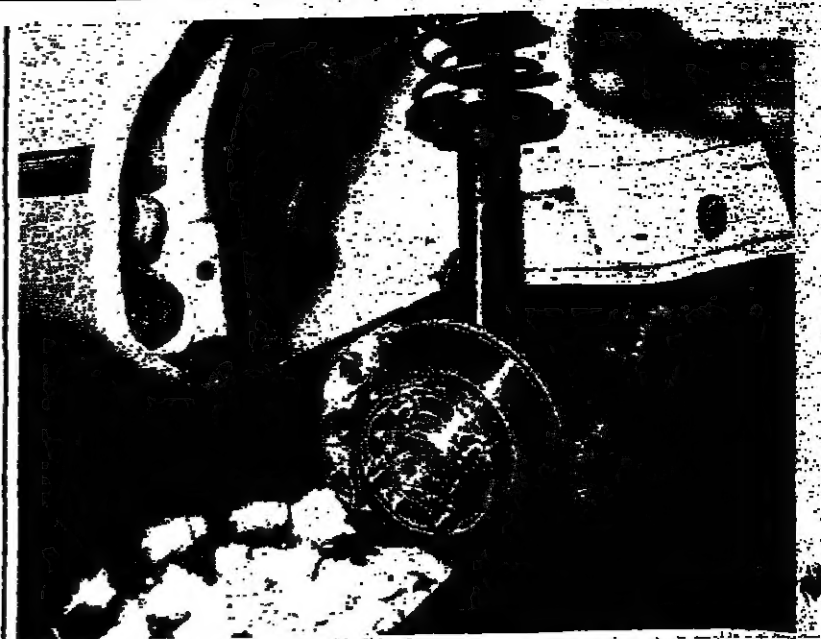
The State Attorney's Office will today reply to the High Court of Justice, which is investigating charges that Shin Bet agents were responsible for the death of a West Bank terrorist suspect, Awad Hamdan. The family petitioned the court following reports that three agents were dismissed for torturing the suspect (11m).

Train conductor found injured on tracks, dies

KIBBUTZ YAKUM (11m). — An Israel Railways ticket collector, 51-year-old Moshe Luski, was found critically injured yesterday morning on the railway track near here, and died shortly afterwards in hospital. He had been on the Tel Aviv-Hadera train. Police would like to hear from anyone who might have seen Luski fall off the train. Israel Railways have also launched an inquiry.

Grenade throwers get 15 years

LOD (11m). — Two Kalkilya residents were sentenced yesterday by the military court here to 15 years in jail for throwing a grenade at an Israeli car and trying to place a bomb in Kfar Sava last February. Mohammed Suss, 27, and Zadek Nazal, 25, pleaded guilty.



13.75 kilograms of heroin, the biggest-ever haul to be discovered in Israel, worth \$9 million, was hidden inside the wheel housing of this car which was stripped by police in Ashdod port on Monday.

Peres implies Jordanian report of three-way meet was correct

Jerusalem Post Staff

Foreign Minister Peres yesterday implicitly confirmed a Jordanian assertion made Tuesday that the U.S. proposed inviting Syria, as well as Israel and Jordan, to a meeting in Washington under U.S.-Soviet auspices.

Adnan Abu Odah, the court minister to King Hussein, revealed Tuesday that the U.S. had sought to invite all three countries to the conference; until then, reports had it that only Israel and Jordan were to participate in the abortive plan.

According to Abu Odah, who made his remarks at a seminar on the Middle East at Atlanta's Emory University, Hussein rejected the U.S. proposal during talks last month in London with Secretary of State George Shultz. He said the proposal called for Hussein, Prime Minister Shamir and Syrian President Hafez Assad to come to Washington during the December 7 summit between President Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Middle East peace talks were

intended to take the place of a fully fledged international conference.

Asked about the proposed conference yesterday in Israel, Peres at first told newsmen: "Ask the Americans." But when asked whether he denied knowing anything of the alleged American proposal, Peres responded: "I didn't say that. I am not in a position to answer this."

Before leaving Israel for a week-long visit to the U.S. on Tuesday, Shamir reportedly said he had never heard of the proposal.

According to Abu Odah, Hussein told Shultz that a tripartite meeting, under joint American-Soviet auspices, was not an acceptable alternative to a fully-fledged international peace conference under the sponsorship of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

The U.S. had not told the Soviet Union about the proposal before presenting it to Hussein, Abu Odah said. "The Soviets, as well as the Syrians, heard about it first from us," he said.

Aluf Mordechai and settlers in sulha

By DAVID BAKER

For The Jerusalem Post

OC Southern Command Aluf Yitzhak Mordechai and Gush Katif settlers last night ended their dispute over Mordechai's allegations about the shooting of an Arab girl in Gaza last week.

After an evening *sulha*, the head of the Katif settlers, Reuven Rosenblatt, apologized for what he termed a "misunderstanding" and expressed his group's full support for the army. The meeting, organized by MK Rabbi Haim Druckman, ended in an embrace between Mordechai and Rosenblatt.

Earlier this week, the settlers announced that they were severing all contact with Mordechai after he charged that the girl had been killed by an unidentified gunman, assumed to be a settler, in a schoolyard and not near a barricade erected by stone-throwing students. Mordechai further alleged that no settlers' lives had not been threatened in the incident.

The settlers' decision to sever ties, which was accompanied by a threat to sue Mordechai for libel, set off a storm of controversy. Mordechai contended he had been quoted out of context.

In deep sorrow, we announce the death of Prof. ABRAHAM G. DUKER

The funeral will take place today Thursday, November 19 (27 Heshvan) at 1:00 p.m., at the Shamgar Funeral Parlour, Jerusalem.

Burial at the Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, Har Tuv.

Wife, Lillian M. Duker (née Sandrow)
Duker, Fishman and Marmon
Families in Israel and the USA

Our heartfelt condolences to
IDA HAENDEL
on the passing of her father

NATHAN
Management and Members,
Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra,
IBA

The Israel Philharmonic Orchestra
We offer condolences to our friend
IDA HAENDEL
on the death of her
Father

The Management and Staff of Richie's Pizza
wish to express sincere condolences to
DAVID JDANKO
on the tragic and untimely death of his sister
ANNA JDANKO

Memorial gathering for
NOMI EILANDER
Wednesday, November 25, 1987, 6:00 p.m.
Women's League House, 14, Ibn Gabirol St., Rehavia, Jerusalem.
Her Friends

Demjanjuk prosecutor pounds memory expert

By ERNIE MEYER

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Defence witness Prof. Wilhelm Wagenaar seemed to reel under bruising cross-examination yesterday by prosecutor Michael Shaked.

Asked Shaked: "How many actual identity parades have you dealt with?"

Wagenaar: "I know of only one; that situation is rare in Holland."

Shaked: "Do you feel that with such limited experience you can advise experienced judges who have sat on hundreds of cases?"

Defence counsel Yoram Sheftel objected: "The witness is a scientist and presents only theoretical material for the court's consideration."

Shaked: "You have not written any articles on the subject of identity parades?"

Wagenaar: "That is correct."

Shaked: "You were widely interviewed in Holland on your forthcoming testimony here. Why was that?"

Wagenaar: "I was attacked, rather, for my future role here. I made a strong plea in favour of scientists being willing to help the courts. That was the topic of my interviews."

Shaked: "Did you reveal to journalists the gist of your testimony?"

Wagenaar: "I discussed some points, but by no means all. Journalists don't accept simple statements, they want elaboration."

And so the session went, with Shaked again demonstrating the thoroughness with which he and his team prepare their questioning. Earlier, Shaked asked the witness why he thought Demjanjuk could be so precise about his being wounded soon after the war began. This con-



DEMJEANJUK ON TRIAL

trasted with his vagueness about the 18 months he says he spent later at a PoW camp — Chelm — whose name he at one point apparently had trouble remembering. With the chaos of the Red Army in retreat, and suffering from a serious back wound, Demjanjuk could have been forgiven for not remembering the various hospitals he was shipped to. Yet the names were on his tongue — Berdiansk, Stalino, etc.

Wagenaar answered rather blandly that it was natural that Demjanjuk should remember these names. "I don't know what you are aiming at. It shows that the names of the hospitals were stored in his memory and were called up when they were needed for retrieval."

Said Shaked sarcastically: "All the curing that was needed was a simple question, nothing more."

There were further questions concerning the reason why Demjanjuk had initially forgotten that most of the time at Chelm he had been engaged in back-breaking labour, digging peat. Wagenaar advanced the theory that, for Demjanjuk, digging peat was not an unusual hardship, which was likely to stand out in his memory. As a youngster he lived through the man-made famine in the Ukraine, and his life in the Red Army was also far from easy.

(Continued on Page Seven)

TODAY - HAGA (Civil Defence)
Exercise in Kfar Sava, Ra'anana and Hod Hasharon
Today, November 19, there will be a combined HAGA and emergency rescue exercise in Kfar Sava, Ra'anana and Hod Hasharon. Personnel from the police, Magen David Adom, the fire brigades, emergency units, Gadna, and the local councils will take part. Sirens will be sounded. In the event of a real attack, the sirens will sound a rising and falling note.

Dr. Mordechai Waron, Director
Martin Lifland, President
Friends of Assaf Harofeh

U.S., Soviets 'very close' to arms agreement

GENEVA (Reuters). — Top U.S. and Soviet nuclear arms negotiators have ended three days of tough bargaining, saying a treaty would be signed on schedule at a December summit despite a daunting list of outstanding problems.

All public statements by Soviet negotiator Yuri Vorontsov and his U.S. counterpart Max Kampelman emphasized that the pact to scrap some 1,000 intermediate-range rockets would be completed by the December 7-10 summit in Washington.

"Work on the treaty, a document of some 120 pages, is in the final stage," Vorontsov said in a television interview on Tuesday, "and should be completed by November 23."

Kampelman told reporters: "We're very, very close. We're on the verge. We'll have an agreement." The treaty would remove and destroy all medium-range mis-

siles within three years and all shorter-range missiles within 18 months.

These weapons, with a range of 500 to 5,000 km., make up the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF), which have been under negotiation since March 1985. Kampelman and Vorontsov returned home yesterday to report back on the talks, leaving behind large teams of negotiators and experts to complete the treaty.

Some of the negotiators told reporters significant problems remained, especially in the sections of the proposed pact that deal with measures to ensure against cheating. The sources also said Moscow was insisting on the right to inspect unused INF missile sites for 13 years. This would include Nato states where U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles have been deployed - Britain, West Germany, Belgium and Italy. Washington says it cannot make deals involving third parties.

The Soviets, on the other hand, acknowledged that there was still no agreement on exactly what was to be destroyed under the pact. The Kremlin wants missiles, warheads, launchers and all associated equipment destroyed.

"We shall press for a real destruction of these missiles," Vorontsov added.

Soviet sources said the U.S. was still pressing for the right to inspect long-range missile factories to make certain no medium-range missiles were being produced there. "That was an unnecessary demand since it will be the subject of the next agreement - on 50 per cent cuts in (long-range) strategic offensive missiles," Vorontsov said.

The key to the entire verification process is the unprecedented right to quick, on-site inspections of suspect areas to ensure against cheating.

Sources in both delegations confirmed the two sides have still to define what constituted a suspect site. This must be done if both sides are to ensure the inspection right will not be used as a chance to spy on unrelated military facilities.

For the Reagan Administration the verification issue could prove crucial in the U.S. Senate, which must approve any pact by a two-thirds majority.

President Reagan has called the Soviet Union an "evil empire" and accused it of cheating on previous arms pacts. When talks began in 1985, his administration encouraged a bipartisan Senate arms observer group to stay abreast of the negotiations.

Three major arms control treaties from the 1970s remain unratified by the Senate, and some Western diplomats feel Reagan faces some tough choices in coming weeks.



Jason Robinson, 7, accompanied by his mother Tammy, begins the new school year in Granite City, Illinois this week in a one-room trailer attached to the Prather elementary school. Jason, a hemophiliac, was exposed to Aids during blood transfusions and is not allowed to attend regular classes. His mother believes Jason would not endanger other children, but "the public has a phobia about Aids and you can't force people not to be afraid." (APF)

23 Filipino army men die in series of air crashes

MANILA (Reuters). — A Philippine Army commander and five others were killed when their light aircraft crashed on Tuesday, bringing the death toll to 23 in four separate air accidents in as many days, the military announced yesterday.

Lieutenant-Colonel Guillermo Densen, commander of the army's 54th battalion, died when his chartered aircraft crashed in bad weather in remote Cagayan Valley in the northern Philippines.

Densen's death followed that of a general and a congressman in helicopter and aircraft crashes in the far south and another military helicopter crash on Saturday. The sole survivor of Tuesday's crash was seriously injured.

In other incidents, at least 15 soldiers and police on counter-insurgency training died and 30 were injured late on Tuesday when the truck in which they were travelling skidded and overturned in Pangasinan province, north of Manila. Deputy Provincial Commander Major Jose Gutierrez told reporters.

The military also reported that 100 Communist rebels ambushed a three-vehicle Army convoy in Abra province in the north, kidnapping a company commander from the para-military Philippine constabulary.

Kenya expels missionaries for subversion

NAIROBI (Reuters). — Kenya has given nine foreign missionaries a week to leave the country in the wake of allegations of a missionary plot to overthrow the government, consular sources said on Tuesday.

The missionaries, eight Americans and a Canadian, were working in the town of Kitale, 330 km northwest of Nairobi, and arrived in the capital to be questioned by the Immigration Department. Immigration authorities said they had to leave within a week but gave no reason, the sources said.

Seven other U.S. missionaries were deported from Kenya last Friday after they were named in a document as parties to an alleged plot to protect white rule in South Africa by depositing black African leaders. The document referred to unnamed missionaries in Kitale, saying they were helping with the plan and its overseas coordination.

The U.S. Embassy said in a statement on Tuesday that the document, in the form of a letter from a North Carolina church to members of the white supremacist Ku Klux Klan, was a forgery, and reports of the alleged plot were baseless.

Rome crisis unravelling

ROME (Reuters). — Italian Prime Minister-Designate Giovanni Goria yesterday appeared close to an unexpectedly rapid solution of the political crisis caused by the collapse of his previous government last week.

Leaders of the outgoing coalition of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Social Democrats and Liberals were making largely optimistic statements after a round of consultations with Goria.

Troops move into Soweto threatening to end rent strike

JOHANNESBURG (AP). — Army troops moved into Soweto on Wednesday to support town council officials warning residents they face eviction if they continue a 17-month-old rent strike, police said.

Several residents said town council constables, backed by soldiers and police, came to their homes before dawn and warned residents they faced imminent eviction unless rents were paid.

An estimated 80 per cent of the households in Soweto, a black town-

ship of 2.5 million people outside Johannesburg, are participating in the rent boycott. Activists view the rent strike as one of the few remaining outlets for political protest under the 17-month-old state of emergency. Nationwide, the rent strike has cost local authorities more than 300 million rand (\$150 m.) in revenue.

In the past year, nearly 200 Soweto families have been evicted, but in many cases residents have

promptly moved back into their homes.

The Soweto Civic Association, an anti-apartheid group that assists residents threatened with evictions, says the boycott is likely to continue until the government-backed city council resigns and rents are lowered. Rents average about 55 rand (\$27) a month for a small, three-room house.

Meanwhile defence officials said yesterday that two more South African soldiers have been killed in com-

bat in Angola, and at least 24 have been hospitalized for treatment of battlefield wounds.

The latest deaths, announced on Tuesday night, raise to 21 the number of South African soldiers killed in Angola in the past three weeks during stepped-up South African intervention in the Angolan civil war. The toll could be 22, depending on the fate of an air force pilot missing after his jet fighter crashed in Angola on Sunday.

Ben Ali starts getting rid of Bourguiba's men

TUNIS (Reuters). — Tunisian President Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali yesterday expelled two former ministers close to deposed President Habib Bourguiba from the ruling party leadership.

The official news agency TAP said former ministers Mohamed Sayah and Mansour Skhiri, both under house arrest since Ben Ali's November 7 takeover, were expelled from the 20-member political bureau of the Destourian Socialist Party (PSD).

Ben Ali ousted Bourguiba, saying that doctors had judged the 84-year-old leader to be senile.



Ben Ali (Reuters)

Fired Yeltsin kicked downstairs

MOSCOW (Reuters). — Sacked Moscow Communist Party leader Boris Yeltsin has been appointed first deputy chairman of the State Construction Committee, the Tass news agency said yesterday. Analysts said the post, which has the rank of minister, was relatively high although not as senior as the job he held as head of the Moscow City Communist Party.

Improving housing was one of Yeltsin's aims in Moscow where he developed a reputation among Muscovites as a leading reformer. He was appointed to the Moscow job less than two years ago.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said on Tuesday that Yeltsin was in hospital with heart

trouble but denied that he had suffered a heart attack. There were unconfirmed reports that Yeltsin was taken by ambulance last week from a Moscow party meeting which dismissed him for grave political errors.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda took the unusual step of publishing a transcript of the meeting at which Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, who had earlier promoted Yeltsin, accused him of trying to split the Politburo.

The Soviet press has still not published a speech made by Yeltsin to the Central Committee in October when he is reported to have complained that Gorbachev's reforms were failing to help the citizen.

ISRAEL'S VERSION

(Continued from Page One)

reason to regret it." But the congressional report is scathing in its criticism of the operation. It was marked by "confusion and disarray at the highest levels" of the U.S. government, the report says. It was also characterized by "pervasive dishonesty and inordinant secrecy."

The report notes that while the National Security Council in the White House was "already engaged in covert operations" in the summer of 1985, "the government of Israel proposed that missiles be sold to Iran in return for the release of seven American hostages held in Lebanon and the prospect of improved relations with Iran."

The report cites meetings in Washington held by the then director-general of the Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, with the then national security adviser in the White House, Robert McFarlane.

That Israeli proposal, the report says, was repeatedly opposed by Secretary of State George Shultz and then secretary of defence Caspar Weinberger. "Nevertheless, in the summer of 1985, the president authorized Israel to proceed with the sales," the report says.

Kimche, according to the report, also managed to convince the Americans to accept the involvement of Manucher Gorbaniyar, a shadowy Iranian arms dealer who earlier had been described as a habitual liar by the Central Intelligence Agency.

"Israel's sponsorship of the Iran initiative, and of Gorbaniyar as an intermediary, carried great weight with the president and his advisers," the report says. "Israel has taken a strong stand against international terrorism, and Israeli intelligence services are among the most respected in the world. McFarlane turned to Israel in the spring of 1985 for intelligence on Iran because of dissatisfaction with CIA capabilities."

"The Israelis strongly advocated the initiative, viewing it as a joint U.S.-Israel operation, and were willing to give the United States deniability - so long as it did not subject them to criticism by Congress and the secretary of state was fully informed."

But the report goes on to point out that Reagan "was under no illusion that the interests of the United States and Israel were synonymous."

As early as June 1985, Secretary Shultz had pointed out to McFarlane that Israel had little to lose by promoting the initiative: it had no policy against arms sales to Iran, and, given the hostility of most of its neighbours, Israel was more willing to gamble on the prospect of changes in the Iranian Government.

But in the end, the report concludes, the U.S. must accept full responsibility for the affair.

"No foreign state can dictate the conduct of U.S. foreign policy," it said. "Superpowers make their own decisions. And the United States did so in this instance. Nevertheless, Israel's endorsement of the Iran initiative cannot be ignored as a factor in its origin and its continuation."

The minority report quotes Shultz as having suggested during a November 10, 1986 meeting at the White House, after the diversion scheme had been disclosed publicly, that Israel "suckered us into this so we can't complain of their sales" of weapons to Iran.

Shultz had brought a briefing paper to that meeting which charged

that Israel had undertaken "a sting operation" to draw the U.S. into the arms sales operation. "Israel obviously sees it in its national interest to cultivate ties with Iran, including arms shipments," the paper said. "Any American identification with that effort serves Israeli ends, even if American objectives and policies are compromised."

The minority report accepts Shultz's interpretation. "We are inclined to agree with Shultz that Israel was actively promoting the initiative because the initiative suited Israel's own national interests," it says. "We disagree, however, with the idea that the United States was being played for a sucker. We believe the U.S. government responsibly made its own judgments, and its own mistakes."

"The United States also went into the initiative knowing full well there was far from an identity of interests between the U.S. and Israel."

It recalls Shultz's testimony before the panel last summer: "We are big boys and we have to take responsibility for whatever it is we do. We can't say that well, somebody else suggested it to us, therefore it is their fault."

REAGAN BLAMED

(Continued from Page One)

"It was the president's policy - not an isolated decision by North or Poindexter - to sell arms directly to Iran and to maintain the Contras 'body and soul,' the Boland amendment notwithstanding."

During three months of televised hearings from May to August this year, the House and Senate investigating panels heard testimony that Reagan had encouraged his national security aides to help the Contras "keep body and soul together" from 1984 to 1986, when most official U.S. aid was banned by laws called Boland amendments after Democratic Congressman Edward Boland of Massachusetts.

In a staccato litany of charges, the congressional report says: "He (Reagan) told the public that early reports of arms sales for hostages had 'no foundation.'"

"He told the public that the U.S. had not traded arms for hostages. 'He told the public that the U.S. had not condoned the arms sales by Israel to Iran, when in fact he had approved them and signed a finding (presidential order), later destroyed by Poindexter, recording his approval.'"

"All of these statements by the president were wrong."

Part two of the scandal began emerging last November 25, when it was disclosed that some of the profits from the Iran arms sales - about \$3.5 million according to later testimony - had been diverted to the Contras.

The White House said Reagan had known nothing about the Contra connection and announced that Poindexter had resigned as national security adviser and North had been fired because of the funds diversion. This in turn led to the general revelation at the congressional hear-

ings that White House aides had orchestrated a sweeping secret effort to raise funds for the Contras from private sources, including such foreign governments as Brunei and Saudi Arabia.

On the issue of whether Reagan knew about the possibly illegal funds diversion, the report merely notes that Reagan had denied it and that Poindexter had testified he had deliberately kept the president in the dark on the matter to protect him.

But it says that accepting Reagan's disclaimer did not shield the president from overall blame in the scandal, and Democratic congressman Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House investigating committee, suggested the question of Reagan's knowledge might remain open.

The eight dissenting Republicans took strong issue in a minority report whose key points they made public on Tuesday in hopes of blunting the impact of the main report.

"President Reagan and his staff made mistakes in the Iran-Contra affair," the minority report says. "The bottom line, however, is that the mistakes of the affair were just that - mistakes in judgment, nothing more."

"There was no constitutional crisis, no systematic disrespect for the 'rule of law,' no grand conspiracy and no administration-wide dishonesty or cover-up."

By contrast, the majority report concludes: "Enough is clear to demonstrate beyond doubt that fundamental processes of governance were disregarded and the rule of law was subverted."

The report blasts North and Poindexter for actions that "do not comport with the notion of a country guided by the rule of law," and criticizes the president who "has yet to condemn their conduct."

ISRAELI POSTAL AUTHORITY
PHILATELIC SERVICE

Issue of new Postage Stamps

NEW STAMPS

— Day of Issue: November 24th, 1987 —

■ 19th Century Exploration of the Holy Land:
Stamps: NIS. 0.30, 0.50, 0.80
Souvenir Sheet: NIS. 2.50

■ Pinhas Rosen stamp — NIS. 0.80

The stamps, First Day Covers and Souvenir Sheets will be sold on the Day of Issue at Philatelic Counters and at post offices authorised to sell them.

The sale of stamps with tabs, and souvenir sheets will continue, as long as stocks permit, at Philatelic Counters for one month from the day of issue, and for one week only at other post offices.

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On the Way! — "INDEPENDENCE 40" National Stamp Exhibition

April 19th-26th, 1988 at Binyana Ha-Uma, Jerusalem

PEACE

10 Years After Sadat's Visit.

Special edition of the weekend magazine:

Nissim Aloni returns from Cairo. Ya'acov Ahimeir on Egyptian war memorials. Bani Matalon at the Israel Embassy in Cairo. Danny Rabinovitz with Sadat's Beduin. Uri Klein on Egyptian cinema. David Ehrlich on the border, and more...

The Euthanasia Problem

Interview of the week: Dr. Alexander Yeller
Head of the Tel Hashomer Hospice/Orit Galili

The Voice that Fell Silent

Nehama Lifshitz doesn't sing any more/Mordechai Artzieli

The Rising Sun

A new relationship with Japan/Yomatan Sherman

Yael Mivon on Moshe Nizkor • A. Schweitzer on similarities of the political parties • Ze'ev Shalev on demography and water • Roman Freidman on relations with Poland • Zvi Barak on an amazing visit to Israel.

Political sources/Akiva Eldor • Political corridors/Itan Shalev • Foreign correspondent/Tom Segov • Strong box/Melania Shalev • Yomatan Sherman and Yehuda Shalev • The week's TV/Edna Ben-Zur.

Judges invited to see man who wants to die

By BERNARD JOSEPHS
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A panel of High Court judges will be asked today to visit a man who wants to die rather than continue suffering from a terminal illness.

"Only by seeing him will they fully understand the agony he is going through," said the lawyer representing 53-year-old Gideon Nakash, who is completely paralyzed and being kept alive by a respirator at Rehovot's Kaplan Hospital.

The lawyer, Itzhak Hoshen, who is also head of the Society for Euthanasia, will go to the court in Jerusalem today to present a petition calling on the justices to grant Nakash's appeal to be allowed to die.

The case has sparked a major debate among doctors and lawyers over whether mercy killings should be allowed. MK Shulamit Aloni (CRM) yesterday tabled a bill in the Knesset that would make euthanasia legal in some circumstances.

Hoshen said the petition was supported by Nakash, his wife Dina, his children Zilla and Hagai, and by the

Euthanasia Society. It asks the judges to order the health authorities to turn off the equipment that is enabling the patient to breathe and to "give him sufficient sedatives to relieve his pain for ever."

In addition, the lawyer added, it calls on the judges to go to Kaplan to see Nakash's condition for themselves before coming to a decision. "Because of the terrible suffering involved I have asked the court to act quickly on this matter," he added.

While both the Health Ministry and the Israel Medical Association are officially opposed to allowing mercy killings, doctors are said to be split on the issue. But all agree that a High Court decision in either direction would be of historic significance.

Nakash, who has been critically ill with multiple sclerosis for four months, is able to communicate with his wife by signalling with his eyes as he looks at the alphabet. In this way he has told her: "Please let me die."

"One simply cannot grasp his terrible situation without seeing him," said Hoshen last night.

Nakash conditionally agrees to a get

By HAIM SHAPIRO / Jerusalem Post Reporter

William Nakash has agreed to deposit a *get* (bill of divorce) for his wife Rina with the Jerusalem District Rabbinical Court next week, thus removing the last obstacle to his extradition to France. But his move may not head off a confrontation between Israel's civil and rabbinical court systems.

The *get*, to be delivered only if Nakash is sentenced to life imprisonment in France for the murder of an Arab, will prevent Rina Nakash from becoming an *aguna* (an abandoned woman who cannot remarry). The Jerusalem Rabbinical Court has banned Nakash from leaving the country until he deposited the *get*.

A source close to Nakash told *The Jerusalem Post* that the French-born Jew had agreed to deposit the *get* next week, after the rabbinical court, in closed session on Tuesday, told him that even if he did not do so, it would lift its ban on his leaving.

The Justice Ministry has petitioned the High Court of Justice for a cancellation of the rabbinical court order, and a hearing is scheduled for Sunday. The petition argues that the rabbinical court lacked authority to override the Justice Ministry's extradition order.

Nili Arad, head of the Justice Ministry's High Court Division, noting that the rabbinical court order was still in effect, said the ministry would go ahead with its petition as planned. The Justice Ministry intends to challenge the rabbinical court's ban in a petition to the High Court of Justice.

Although the application of Rina Nakash to the rabbinical court to keep her husband from leaving the country was seen as a ploy to avoid his extradition to stand trial for murder, the deposition of a conditional bill of divorce with a rabbinical court is a time-honored practice. In the Middle Ages, Jewish merchants departing on long expeditions often followed such a procedure to enable their wives to remarry if they failed to return.

As the rabbinical court met, members of Israel's Reform movement demonstrated outside its offices in Jerusalem's Jaffa Road. The demonstrators said they were not protesting about the Nakash case specifically, but the case represented the rabbinical courts' "stranglehold" over the Israeli public.

Home Office reportedly confirms that 16 Nazis are living in Britain

UK may change law to try alleged war criminals

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. -- Home Secretary Douglas Hurd is "seriously considering" amending British law to allow for alleged Nazis living in the UK to be put on trial here.

Following a meeting with Hurd on Tuesday evening, the All-Party Parliamentary War Crimes Group said that the home secretary now fully recognized "the gravity and urgency of the matter."

Home Office investigations are understood to have confirmed that 16 alleged Nazis on a list compiled last year by the Simon Wiesenthal Centre are indeed living in the UK. The names of another 34 alleged Nazis believed to be here were supplied by the Soviet authorities.

A spokesman for the All-Party Group said that Hurd was expected to decide within the next few weeks whether to adopt a policy of extradition, deportation, or trial of suspected war criminals in the UK.

Hurd has categorically ruled out extradition to the Soviet Union, where many of the alleged Nazis were born, and he is not believed to favour extradition to Israel, although the Israeli authorities have expressed willingness to apply for the extradition of certain of those named on the lists.

It is believed unlikely that Hurd will be satisfied with merely denaturalizing and deporting people who are proven to have lied about their wartime activities when applying for British citizenship.

Thus an amendment to British law appears the most likely prospect. Current legislation does not provide for the trial in the UK of alleged offenders who were not British subjects at the time of the alleged offence, whose victims were not British, and whose alleged offence was committed outside Brit-

ain. For this reason there has never been a war crimes trial in the UK. The pressure on Hurd to take action has been building up for a couple of years now, and has been especially intense since Wiesenthal Centre representatives in July presented him with a 1,100-page dossier of evidence relating mainly to mass killings allegedly carried out in Lithuania by Antanas Gecas, now a 71-year-old Edinburgh boarding-house keeper.

UN report says Israel is S.A.'s biggest supplier of arms

South Africans said working at Dimona in nuclear R&D effort with Pretoria

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON. -- South African scientists have been working at the Dimona nuclear facility, cooperating on research and development in the nuclear field, according to a new report by the UN Special Committee Against Apartheid.

The 14-page report, which states that Israel is South Africa's largest arms supplier, describes the nuclear collaboration between the two countries as the "most serious" aspect of their defence cooperation.

The committee has 18 member countries, among them Nigeria, Algeria, the GDR, India, Hungary, Peru, Sudan and Syria. Its report has just been submitted to the General Assembly.

The committee estimates annual two-way arms sales to be worth over \$500 million, and asserts that the working relationship between Israel and South Africa "has continuously increased for more than a decade."

The two countries' weapons systems are "virtually identical," states the report, adding that the navigation system for the South African Cheetah jet fighter was built by an Israeli Aircraft Industries (IAI) subsidiary, Altab, while the plane's weapons systems were built by IAI itself.

The report notes that South Africa is planning to build a runway on the remote Antarctic territory of Marion Island, for possible use as a nuclear missile testing site.

Israel Kargman, longtime MK and Mapai activist, at 80

Israel Kargman, who died on Tuesday, was a prominent Mapai politician who served as the Alignment's coalition whip and chairman of the Knesset Economic Committee.

He was born in Berdichev, Russia, on December 23, 1906, and brought up in an observant home. As a member of Hehalutz in Soviet Russia, he suffered persecution, arrests and exile, before arriving here in 1929.

Kargman started his career as an agricultural labourer, first in Petah Tikva and then in Magdiel. He was also a building worker in Jerusalem before he found permanent employment at the Ata textile factory in 1938.

There, he became a trade union organizer, which subsequently led to his election to the Histadrut central committee; his articles in the labour press gained him a reputation as a realistic, self-taught economist.

His Knesset career began in 1956, when he replaced Zalman Shazar on the Labour Party ticket. Kargman

quickly became known as an expert in social and economic affairs. He was chairman of the Sixth Knesset's Finance Committee and chairman of the State Control Committee in the Eighth Knesset.

Kargman also chaired a committee appointed to study the development of the textile industry in Israel and a commission that looked into the question of workers' representation in management at the Israel Electric Corporation. He also headed a commission reporting on the misuse of equipment captured in 1967 in Sinai.

He was one of the authors of the bill to finance political parties, which he vigorously pushed through the Knesset. He also advocated a five-year Knesset tenure, but that bill died in committee.

Kargman was often accused of being a Labour conservative who zealously watched over public funds and opposed free currency dealings. He was also ridiculed when he opposed late night television, which he believed would prevent workers from



Israel Kargman (Israel Sun)

getting enough sleep. In 1977, Kargman resigned from the Knesset but did not withdraw from political life. He was particularly concerned with the problem of foreign and Arab labour, which he felt would erode the state's Zionist character.

He is survived by his wife, Rivka, son Guri and daughter, Edith. Alexander Zvielli

Arabs and Israelis get together at Paris colloquium on cancer

By MICHEL ZLOTOWSKI
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

PARIS. -- Israeli and Arab researchers met in Paris this week for a two-day symposium on cancer organized by the French Cancer Research Association, in a rare instance of direct scientific contact between the two sides.

The meeting marked the fifth year of low-profile meetings between Arab and Israeli scientists. The colloquium was devoted mainly to inflammatory breast cancer, a rapidly growing lethal tumour that occurs frequently in the Mediterranean basin. Rare in the Western world, this particular type of cancer has not been thoroughly researched.

Most significantly, arrangements were made for cooperative work on a regular basis between Lebanon, Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Kuwait, France and Israel. As the most technologically advanced countries at the conference, Israel and France are the addresses for the most up-to-date techniques and epidemiological experience.

On the organizing committee were Prof. Nejb Mourali of the Salah Azaiz Institute of Tunis, and Prof. Michael Feldman of the Weizmann Institute, along with Prof. Gerard Milhaud of the Saint-Antoine Hospital in Paris.

"This is the only example of direct contact between scientists from Israel and the Arab world," Feldman told *The Jerusalem Post*. "We tried direct cooperation between Israel and Egypt in the agricultural field, but it did not succeed the way this is going on. I have already been working for six years on this project."

"We don't find it difficult to work with Israelis," an Arab conference participant who wished to remain anonymous, told *The Post*. "We don't walk around waving little flags, we are scientists talking to other scientists. But until the Palestinian issue is solved, our collaboration will have to remain on this low level. Israel has to take dramatic decisions that will mean a lot to that area and to all the people living there."

Army recruitment office at IAI fails to attract job-seekers

By JOSHUA BRILLIANT
Post Defence Reporter

TEL AVIV. -- An IDF programme to hire engineers and technicians due to lose their jobs at Israel Aircraft Industries has failed to lure a single recruit.

The army opened a recruitment office at IAI some six weeks ago, offering 500 jobs to employees laid off as a result of the cabinet's decision to quash the Lavi project in September.

But while workers held stormy demonstrations against the decision, and some have been seeking jobs in South Africa, very few have investigated the IDF's offer. "To date none have been drafted," an authoritative military source said yesterday. The IDF has not decided to close the office but it may do so soon, he added.

Commenting on this, Shmuel Etzion, a leader of the IAI shop committee, said people were still exam-

ining various options. Military service was not the preferred choice, unless the offer happens to be exceptional, he said. Those who liked military service probably never left the IDF.

"I personally get the creeps from military service," one IAI worker said. "I'm willing to put in overtime, but at the end of a day I go home. No one will tell me not to, that I ought to stay at a base. Military service is too strict for me."

Meanwhile, Jewish Agency Aliya Department head Haim Aharon called on Defence Minister Rabin to take action to prevent hundreds of engineers fired from the Lavi project from going to South Africa and other countries, where jobs await them. He said that the expected emigration of 82 engineers to South Africa will greatly harm the department's efforts to encourage aliya from that country.

Spring to bring fluoridation to Jerusalem

By JUDY SIEGEL

The opening of a water-fluoridation plant on the outskirts of Jerusalem in the spring, affecting half a million residents, will bring the Health Ministry closer to its target of 100 per cent fluoridation of the national water supply by 1993.

According to Dr. Moshe Kelman, head of the Health Ministry's dental health department, fluoridation of water can reduce cavities in children by 60 per cent, provided that the knowledge that they are protected

by fluoride does not send them to the cookie jars and candy counters. Kelman, in an interview yesterday with *The Jerusalem Post*, said that no more than 5 per cent of Israel's children aged six months to 14 years are given fluoride tablets as recommended, and maybe only one in 20 of those who start the regimen continue it for more than three years.

"If many women on the birth-control pill have babies because they are forgetful, despite their high motivation not to get pregnant, it isn't realistic to expect that parents will faithfully give their children the right dose of fluoride every day."

Hence, the ministry wants to expand water fluoridation from its current 23 per cent of the population to 100 per cent.

Ireland has the highest rate in Europe, with 70 per cent, while Israel is fifth when compared with European countries. The U.S. is 50 per cent fluoridated.

The Jerusalem-area fluoridation plant, now being completed at Kishon, cost some \$200,000 and has been planned for many years. A small plant in the city itself operated for only a year and covered only part of Jerusalem, but the equipment broke down and left residents

without fluoride. The plant was funded on an equal basis by donations collected by Jerusalemite Herman Elbin, the ministry, and the Jerusalem Municipality. The plant will introduce 100 kilos of H2SiF6 (hydrofluosilicic acid, a fluoride compound) into the water, supplying half a million Jerusalem-area residents each day. The cost of the fluoride per resident is less than three U.S. cents a year.

The ministry's entire fluoridation budget is only \$150,000 a year. Kelman said that there was no tangible opposition by dentists to the building of the plant, even though fluoridation may be expected to reduce their patient load, because "there is still plenty of dental work in this country to keep the dentists busy."

Until your water is fluoridated, you should be giving babies aged six months to toddlers aged two a quarter of a milligram of fluoride a day (or one pill of Fluden Regular, the most popular Israeli-made tablet); two to three year olds can take half a milligram (or two Fluden Regular); and children aged three to 14, one milligram (or one Fluden Forte). Imported drops costs up to seven times more than locally made products, but are no different in composition.

Kelman urges parents to be careful about dosages, as massive and continuous overdoses can cause mottling (permanent black or brown spots) on the teeth of children before the tooth enamel matures at the age of seven.

Mea She'arim posters call for rejoicing at archeologist's death

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The battle that some residents of Jerusalem's Mea She'arim quarter had with archeologist Yigal Shilo did not end with his recent death, posters in the ultra-Orthodox quarter show.

Shilo, who uncovered the City of David outside the walls of Jerusalem's Old City, had been accused by his haredi (ultra-Orthodox) opponents of disturbing a medieval Jewish cemetery in violation of Jewish religious law. The archeologists who worked at the site said that they found no evidence of such a cemetery.

The posters called for rejoicing at Shilo's death, which is described in terms usually used for the death of an animal. Shilo is also called an "evil man," and his "great suffering" before his death from cancer, the posters said, would be completed in the world to come and in the grave.

"So may all Your enemies perish," the posters conclude. The posters were unsigned. A spokesman for the Ets Haharedi, probably the leading faction in Mea She'arim, said that the posters had not been put up by his group.

CINEMA PERFORMANCES

JERUSALEM
Bak Agnon: Being There 6; Broadway Danny Rose 8:15; 9:15; Golden Child, mid. night; Clementine: Splendor in the Grass 7; The Killing of Sister George 9:30; The Love Machine 9:30; Absolute Beginners, midnight; Eden: Beverly Hills Cop II, 4:30, 7, 9; Elation: Dutch Treat 4:30, 7, 9:15; Hallelujah: Empire: closed for renovations; Israel Museum: Praying Mantis 7, 9:15; Jerusalem Theatre: Jean de Florette, 7, 9:30; Kfir: No Way Out 4:30, 7, 9:15; Mitzvah: The Untouchables 7, 9:15; Orgel: Rita, Sue and Bob Too 4:30, 6:45; Orion Or 1: Beauty of Vice 4:30, 6:45; Orion Or 2: White Blower 4:30, 6:45; Orion Or 3: Full Metal Jacket 4:30, 6:45, 8:15; Orion Or 4: Down By Law 7:15, 9:30; West Side Story 11 p.m.; Orion Or 5: Fiddler 4:30, 7, 9; Gallipoli 11 p.m.; Orion Or 6: Soris Comodoro 4:30; Don't Give a Damn 6:45, 8; Hemo King of Jerusalem 11 p.m.; Orion Or 7: Decline of the American Empire 4:30, 7, 9:15; Orion Or 8: Oh God, You Devil 4:30, 7, 9; Samedar: Decline of the American Empire 7, 9:15.

RAMAT GAN
Armen: Black Widow 7:30, 9:45; Lily: Beauty of Vice 7:15, 9:30; Orion: Who Is That Girl? 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; Orion: Down By Law 7:15, 9:30; Orion: 1: Witches of Eastwick 5, 7:30, 9:50; Orion: 2: Full Metal Jacket 5, 7:30, 9:50; Orion: 3: Decline of the American Empire 5, 7:30, 9:50; Orion: 4: Burglar 5, 7:30, 9:50.

HERZLIYA
Den Accadia: That's Life 7, 9:30; Daniel Harel: Stand By Me 7:15, 9:30 (exc. Wed.); David: Outrageous Fortune 7:15, 9:30; Mechal: The Untouchables 4:30, 7, 9:30; New Tiffo: Who Is That Girl? 7:15, 9:15.

HOLON
Armen: Nemeshadash: Hemo King of Jerusalem 7:30, 9:50; Rocky Horror Picture Show 11:30 p.m.; Mitzvah: Who Is That Girl? 7:30, 9:30; Savoy: The Untouchables 4:30, 7, 9:30.

BAT YAM
Armen: Number One With a Bullet 4:30, 7:15, 9:30.

GIVATAYIM
Hadar: The Untouchables 4:30, 7, 9:30.

RAMAT HASHARON
Kochav: The Secret of My Success 7, 9:30; Never Ending Story 4:15.

PETAH TIKVA
G.G. Mechal: 1: The Untouchables 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; G.G. Mechal: 2: Number One With a Bullet 4:30, 7:15, 9:30; G.G. Mechal: 3: Witches of Eastwick 5, 7:15, 9:30.

RUSHON LEZION
G.G. Mechal: 1: Tenue de Soiree 4:30, 7, 9:30; G.G. Mechal: 2: The Untouchables 4:30, 7, 9:30.

NETANYA
Don-Hechal: Tarbut: Angel Heart 7:15, 9:30, 9:50.

KFAR SAVA
Bak Agnon: Last Tango in Paris 9:30.

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TODAY'S ENTERTAINMENT

Regular TV and Radio scheduling is suspended due to the strike at the Israel Broadcasting Authority

TELEVISION

ISRAEL TV
EDUCATIONAL TV
8:00 Teletext 8:05 Keep Fit 8:15 School broadcasts 13:30 Yesterday at the Demjanjuk Trial 14:00 Teletext 14:05 No Secrets 14:30 Family Problems 16:10 Rehov Sunsum 16:40 Keep Fit 16:50 This is it - live magazine 17:00 A New Evening - live magazine

ISRAEL TV CHANNEL 2
8:30 The Demjanjuk Trial - live broadcast 17:30 Children's cartoons 18:00 The Pink Villa - live 19:30 The Demjanjuk Trial - roundup 20:00 Documentary 21:00 Pop 2

JORDAN TV (unofficial)
17:30 Cartoons 18:00 French Hour 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 Life's Most Embarrassing Moments 21:10 Indefinite Evidence 22:00 News in English 22:20 Feature film

MIDDLE EAST TV
12:30 Another Life 14:00 700 Club 14:30 Shape-Up 15:00 Muppet Babies 15:30 Flying House 16:00 Fraggle Rock 16:30 Afternoon Movie: Horse Feathers 18:00 Nova 19:00 News 20:00 Scarecrow and Mrs. King 21:00 Highway to Heaven 22:00 Moonlighting 23:00 700 Club 23:30 Another Life

RADIO

ARMY
6:05 University on the Air 6:30 Open Your Eyes - songs information 7:07 "707" 8:00 Good Morning Israel 9:05 In the Morning 10:05 Music 11:05 Right Now 13:05 Hebrew hits 14:05 Daily sounds 15:05 Festival songs 16:05 Four in the Afternoon 17:00 Evening Newsreel 18:05 Economic Magazine 19:00 Hebrew songs 20:05 Army and Defense Magazine (repeated) 21:00 Mabat - TV newsreel 21:30 University on the Air (repeated) 22:05 Popular songs 23:05 The 24th Hour 00:05 Night Birds - songs, chat

ARMY TWO
19:05 Radio Radio 20:05 Hit songs 22:05 Coffee Break 23:05 All That Jazz

THE VOICE OF PEACE
Regular daily programmes
3:00-6:00 Nightbeat
15:00-16:00 Knesset Programme
18:00-19:30 Twilight Time
19:30-21:00 Classical Music

WHAT'S ON

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS 9.90 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS 197.80 per line, including VAT, per month. Rates calculated according to regular newspaper column width.

JERUSALEM Museums

ISRAEL MUSEUM. Opening Exhibition: Traditional Arab Handicrafts (Paley Centre) 9 Hanukkah Lamp Collections (Ticho House) 9 "Father Series," Nurt David 9 Hana Gool's recent, original iron furniture designs 9 Photographs, Boaz Tat. Renaissance theatre in contemporary context 9 Justin Ladda, new work especially for Israel Museum 9 Captive Dream, Jerusalem 1987 9 Ilia Laleoumi: Golden Memories of the Holy Land (Jewelry) 9 Tradition and Revival: Jewish Renaissance in the Arab World: Garde Art 9 Wondrous: 9 Empires: Arish Aroch, Michael Gross, Israel Tarnarkin 9 Edomite Shrine 9 News in Antiquities 97 9 Special Exhibitions: Priestly Benediction on Silver Scrolls 9 Neger 1987, Magdalene Abakanowicz 9 Permanent Exhibitions of Archaeology, Heritage, Ethnic Art and Shrine of the Book w/Dead Sea Scrolls. Archaeological (Rockefeller) Museum. Crusader Art 9 Animals in Ancient Art.

ISRAEL MUSEUM VISITING HOURS: Main Museum 10-5. At 11: Guided tour of Museum (English). 3: Guided tour of Heritage galleries (English). 7 & 9:15: Film, "Praying Mantis."

L.A. MAYER MUSEUM FOR ISLAMIC ART. Visiting hours: Sun-Thur: 10-5; 3-6. Fri. closed. Sat. and holiday eve 10-1. Holidays: check with Museum. 2 Hapahmah St. Tel. 681291/2. Bus No. 15.

SEREBALL MUSEUM of Biblical Archeology of the Hebrew Union College, 13 King David Street, Tel. 203333. Visiting hours: Sun-Thur: 10-4, Fri. Sat. and Holiday: 10-2.

Conducted Tours

HADASSAH HOSPITAL. Ein Kerem. Chagall Windows - synagogues open 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Tours, Sun-Thurs, hourly, on the half hour: 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Fri. open 9:00 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Tours, hourly on the half hour: 9:30-11:30 a.m. Entrance fee: Half-day tours of the installations: Sun, Tue., Thur. Details: 02-416333, 446271.

DON'T WASTE PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCES SAVE WATER

The right to protest isn't absolute

ASHER FELIX LANDAU/Law Report

In the Supreme Court sitting as the High Court of Justice, before Justice Gavriel Bach, Justice Eliezer Goldberger, and Judge Elyahu Winograd. In the matter of Sa'adiah Marciano and other petitioners, versus Nitzav Rahamim Comfort, commander of the Southern District of the Israeli police, respondent (H.C.606/87).

THE PETITIONERS, active members of various public bodies, applied to the respondent for a permit to hold a demonstration against "religious coercion, which seriously hampers suburban citizens, and against growing violence regarding places of recreation such as cinemas and restaurants."

The demonstration was planned for some 200 participants, and was to be held at the entrance to the Mea She'arim quarter in Jerusalem on the eve of the Sabbath.

The police agreed to the demonstration, not at the entrance to Mea She'arim, but at a point less than 80 meters away. The petitioners thereupon applied to the High Court of Justice for an order on the respondent to permit the demonstration at

the place originally selected.

THE JUDGMENT of the court was given by Justice Gavriel Bach.

The principles involved, he said, were not in dispute, the only question being whether they had been properly applied. There was no doubt that to demonstrate, and express opinions arousing strong antagonism, was a basic right in an enlightened democracy.

This right had to be jealously preserved, and it was the duty of the police to protect demonstrators against the disruption of a legitimate gathering. This right, however, was not absolute.

Justice Bach then cited Supreme Court precedents, including H.C.153/83 (*The Jerusalem Post*, Aug. 19, 1984), in which it was held that freedom to demonstrate could be limited, or even denied, if there were "a near certainty" of real danger to public security, despite all reasonable efforts by the police.

Theoretical or speculative danger, however, was not enough: there had to be a genuine and reasonable expectation, based on facts and past experience, that a danger really existed.

The police had given the reasons for their decision, he continued. The place proposed for the demonstration was opposite the most extreme yeshivot in Mea She'arim, whose students were accustomed to violent confrontation with the police. It had also been for many years a "Sabbath enclave," closed to traffic on that day. A demonstration at that point on the Sabbath would be provocative, and create "a near certainty" of violence and bloodshed.

The respondent added that a demonstration at the alternative point proposed, less than 80 meters away, would also demand a large force of police and present a serious security problem, and the petitioners' refusal to accept this compromise cast doubt on their professed

intention to be tolerant and behave peacefully.

ON THE BASIS of the facts and the court's own knowledge of the area concerned, Justice Bach said, it was justification for forcing the police to allow a demonstration in a highly sensitive area when it was convinced that, despite all possible precautions, a serious breach of the peace would almost certainly result.

Justice Bach also cited a judgment of the late Chief Justice Yitzhak Kahane, in which the court justified the refusal of a local authority to license a business which would deeply offend the local population, comparing such an activity "to opening a night-club in the middle of Mea She'arim, or a tavern in an Orthodox Moslem suburb."

For the above reasons, the petition was dismissed, with no order as to costs.

Abraham Mentzel and Shlomo Amiel appeared for the petitioners, and Dorit Beinisch, the deputy state attorney, for the police.

The judgment was given on August 27, 1987.

Abramov's labour of love

SRAYA SHAPIRO/There and Then

NEWCOMERS FROM the West, particularly from America, often winced at the Israeli propensity to unionize. People here are expected to "belong" to a party, if not to a trade union. "Westerners" say they feel constrained, their freedom limited by a union card.

They don't understand. "Organizing" the motley immigrants from many countries, with their diverse backgrounds, was essential for achieving some semblance of consensus in a society developing in hostile surroundings. And the newcomers from Russia brought the organizing enthusiasm with them.

Yehzekel Abramov had it in him when he came here in 1919 with the two shiploads of so-called Crimeans, travelling on *kisses-passer* papers stating that their bearers were "returning home to Palestine." But, indeed, the organizing bug had hit him much earlier.

"I organized like mad, for the SR (Social Revolutionaries)," Abramov recalls. His affiliation to this particular group was rather accidental, he says. Every young man felt it was his duty to belong to some group with a coherent platform. But in the Crimea, where he had drifted in search of a quieter place to carry out his studies in mathematics, he met Yosef Trumpeldor. "Trumpeldor came to Russia from Palestine to try to establish an army of young Jews to move to Palestine. His headquarters were first in Petrograd (as St. Petersburg was renamed after the February Revolution; later to become Leningrad). The centre of the Hehalutz movement was subsequently transferred to Minsk, and later still to the Crimea."



"Trumpeldor was an extraordinary man," Abramov says. "He inspired awe and confidence. I was won over completely and started organizing like mad for Trumpeldor." Many Jewish youths converged on the Crimea in those days; when Russia was torn by civil war.

When they arrived in Tel Aviv, they were all known as *Krimchaks*, though few of them were Crimean born. They were an unruly lot, a jarring note among the sedate founding fathers of the first Hebrew town.

Abramov stayed in Jaffa, working

at the port. Early on May Day in 1921, he walked to the port, to dissuade Jewish stevedores from working. Two workers left the ships.

Abramov's next job was in the railway repair yard in Lydda. Lydda (Lod), was the junction where the lines from Jaffa to Jerusalem met with the Kantara-Haifa track. Most of the workers were Jewish.

Abramov's training as an electrician at an ORT school in Minsk served him well. With time, he became Lydda Railway's top electrician. And, again, he was "organizing" like mad.

The Histadrut was the obvious roof organization for Jewish workers. But what about the Arabs? The Histadrut was formally registered as the Federation of Jewish Labour. A move by ardent left-wingers to delete the "Jewish" part was savagely opposed by David Ben-Gurion, who eventually triumphed.

The idea of helping the Arab workers to set up an organization of their own was supported by Yitzhak Ben Zvi. Philip Hassoun headed the Palestine Workers Union, or Brit Poalei Eretz Yisrael, as it was known in the Hebrew press. "We even published a weekly in Arabic to help the organization," Abramov says. But the attempt to organize the Arab sector was short-lived.

"The Arabs were wary of strikes, as they feared they would not be re-employed. But they did stage a go-slow action, they called it 'protest action'."

Unrecognized by the authorities - "they alleged that civil servants' unions were barred under English law" - Abramov was the unchallenged spokesman of the Railways and Postal Workers. And when State of Israel supplanted the British Mandate, Abramov's union became the nucleus of the country's Civil Service Union. Abramov even led the first strike of Israel's civil service.

At 90 and a widower for several years, Abramov leads a secluded life in a small, modestly furnished flat in a Mishan Golden Age home. He reads *Davar* and listens to classical music. "The other day, a Harvard professor came here and 'pumped' me for hours about the Arab workers' union," Abramov has a photographic memory.

Israel loses a friend in Switzerland

Yohanan Meroz

THE AVERAGE Israeli is not very familiar with the intricacies of the Swiss system of government, nor does he follow domestic developments in Tel's country - other than in the field of tourism - with more than casual attention.

It may well have escaped his notice that Pierre Aubert, for 14 years head of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and, in accordance with the Swiss rule of rotation, three times President of the Confederation during that period, recently announced his retirement, to take effect from the end of the year.

M. Aubert's decision did not come as a surprise. It had, in fact, been expected for some time in the light of rather severe criticism levelled at him from various quarters, including his own socialist party.

Indeed, in some respects the ide-

alistic humanist from the canton of Neuchâtel, one of the most worldly and enlightened within the Confederation, never quite fitted the restrictive Helvetic traditions in the domain of foreign policy. The zeal of his endeavours - endorsed, of course, by the Federal Council (government) - to lead Switzerland into membership of the United Nations, his belief that it should play a more active part in international affairs in general, his rather frequent, "un-Swiss" official travels abroad coupled with an inability to project himself and his ideas effectively among his more conservative fellow-citizens often gave rise to misgivings and outright opposition, with the press treating him quite unkindly in recent years.

The massive negative response with which the Swiss people rejected the recommendation for UN membership - not a single canton supported it - made Aubert's resignation appear inevitable, though few people doubted that his intentions and efforts were inspired by noble

motives and lofty ideals. That a measure of naivete accompanied them occasionally did not detract from that assessment, but rather underlined his sincerity.

THE ARAB-ISRAEL conflict figured high on the scale of international issues which triggered his imagination and induced him to try Aubert's hand at friendly, honest brokerage. He firmly believed that the offer of the territory of Switzerland for meetings between the parties constituted a useful contribution to paving the way for the settlement of a dispute which had been of great concern to him for a long time.

Before assuming ministerial office, Aubert had been the chairman of the Swiss-Israel Friendship League for several years. He has a remarkable record of devotion to the Jewish people and their state. He was profoundly affected by the Holocaust and took issue with the stand-offish attitude adopted by the authorities during the war when they had failed to extend all the help they could and should have offered to save lives.

Peace for Israel, which he had visited several times, was his ardent wish; rarely would he despatch even the most official communication to an Israeli representative without adding a hand-written "Shalom."

In his efforts for peace, in the course of which he paid official visits in 1985 to Israel and a number of Arab countries, Aubert did not always adhere to diplomatic conformism, nor was he free from errors of judgment which added fuel to the

scepticism of his critics. At least in one respect Aubert, too, had reason to voice objections, when during a visit to Tunisia Aubert met with a senior member of the PLO (who had been received by him before in Bern).

In spite of such occasional differences, however, Aubert's sincere, friendly approach cannot be questioned. He belongs to that unfortunately diminishing school of moderate social-democrats guided by humanism rather than dogmatism, and among whom the Jewish people and Israel have always found some of their most understanding and reliable supporters.

AUBERT is returning to private life after many years in politics; he probably does so with a sense of disappointment. He may have cherished exaggerated ambitions for Switzerland in world affairs; the role he envisaged for it may not have been realistic, primarily because it ran counter to the particular concept of neutralism to which the Swiss have been committed for centuries. To the excellent relations generally prevailing between Jerusalem and Bern, as well as to the close ties between their peoples, his contribution has been invaluable. Anyone who had the good fortune of making his acquaintance more than casually cannot fail to be impressed with the deep-rooted, humane friendship which Pierre Aubert holds for Israel.

The writer is a former ambassador to Switzerland.

TENNIS

Amos sails into quarters

By DUDLEY KESSEL

Special for the Jerusalem Post JOHANNESBURG - Amos Mansdorf came comfortably through his second-round match in the \$315,000 South African Open here yesterday against the big-serving American Richey Reneberg the score 6-4, 6-4.

The match was actually not as close as the score suggests. Mansdorf never really being pushed and never having to bring out anything extra to beat the 21-year-old Texan.

The defending champion needed only one break of service in each set to secure his berth in tomorrow's quarter-finals where he meets Italian Francesco Cancellotti (ranked around 75), who upset fourth-seeded American David Pate 5-7, 7-6 (7-2), 6-3.

If Mansdorf comes through his quarter-final against the 24-year-old Cancellotti, he can probably expect to meet the top seed, Wimbledon champion Pat Cash.

In the first set, the fifth-seeded Israeli broke his opponent's serve in the fifth game to lead 3-2 and was never in danger of losing his own as he continued to victory. Reneberg's service at this time seemed more effective than Mansdorf's but the Israeli was not going to take any nonsense and was well in control of proceedings.

In the second set, the course of events was much the same. This time Mansdorf broke in the sixth game, although he had to hold off a break-back point in the following game and did so with ease.

Mansdorf seemed to cruise into top gear in the second set. Serving more effectively (three aces) and mixing up his game with some great passing shots particularly on the backhand side and also coming up to net where he finished points with assurance.

In all, Reneberg appeared to be the much less experienced player on court; making many unforced errors which cancelled out any advantage he might have had with his big serve, he banded down six aces during the match.

In an interview on South African radio after the match, Mansdorf said he feels that over the past year he has become a much tougher player mentally. His shots certainly seem more effective than when he won the title at the Ellis Park stadium a year ago.

Other first-round results: (1) Pat Cash (Australia) beat Michael Robertson (South Africa) 6-2, 6-2; (2) Andre Gomer (Ecuador) beat Danie Visser (South Africa) 6-1, 7-5; second round: (3) Brad Gilbert (U.S.) beat Pieter Aldrich (South Africa) 6-2, 6-1.

Jack Leon added: In Jaffa, Israel's Ben Merozstein yesterday upset second-seeded American Steve Kennedy 6-3, 7-5 in the quarter-finals of the ATP satellite in Jaffa. Merozstein meets West German qualifier Kai Godeler in today's semi, while in the other half of the draw top-seeded Jean-Philippe Fleurbaey of France meets Sweden's No. 3 seed Conny Falk.

The women's semi-final line-up is Dana Berger (Israel) v Stephanie Baush (U.S.) and Dalia Golan (Israel) v Greta Schmitt (Hungary) Play begins today at 1 p.m.

Martina has to work hard

NEW YORK (Reuter) - Martina Navratilova needed a second set tie-break to overcome a surprisingly tough Catarina Lindqvist 6-4, 7-6 in the first round of the \$1 million Virginia Slims Masters at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday night.

Lindqvist, who was crushed by Navratilova in the first round here last year, forced the second seed and defending champion to really work for her win and even gave her a bit of a scare this time around.

The 24-year-old Swede did a ter-

rific job of keeping the ever-attacking Navratilova off balance with backhand passes and shots that consistently landed at the world No. 2's feet.

"She hit it so hard I wasn't even comfortable serve-and-volleying," said the 31-year-old Navratilova.

In other matches on Tuesday night, Kathleen Reggi of Italy advanced when fifth-seeded Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia retired after pulling a hamstring muscle. The Italian won the first set 7-5. Eighth seeded Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria dropped beat West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch in an unimpressive match 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

BASEBALL

George Bell is the AL's MVP

NEW YORK (AP) - George Bell of the Toronto Blue Jays became the first member of a Canadian team to win the American League Most Valuable Player award Tuesday, beating Alan Trammell of the Detroit Tigers in the voting.

Bell, also the first Dominican to be named MVP, beat the Tigers' shortstop by 21 points, getting 332 points to Trammell's 311 in voting by the Baseball Writers Association of America.

For winning, Bell will receive a \$50,000 bonus from the Blue Jays. The outfielder's base salary for 1987 was \$1,285,000.

Two association members in each of the 14 AL cities were eligible to vote. Bell received 16 first-place votes and Trammell 12.



MVP - George Bell

NBA Celtics plummet without Bird

NEW YORK (AP) - It would have been easy for the Boston Celtics to blame their first loss of the NBA season on Larry Bird's two sprained ankles.

When Bird, who averaged nearly 32 points in the Celtics' first six games, limped off the Richfield Coliseum floor in the second quarter on Tuesday night, they were already well on the way to losing 109-88 to the Cleveland Cavaliers.

"We were 10 points down (when Bird went out), but before that we

had problems with their fast break, with their post-up and their outside shooting." Celtics coach K.C. Jones said. "And we had trouble putting the ball in the hoop."

"It wouldn't have mattered if Kevin McHale or Bill Walton had been here," Celtics center Robert Parish said. "It wouldn't have mattered if we'd had our entire cast out there. They just outplayed us. We did one thing right - show up for the bus on time."

In other NBA games, it was New Jersey 114, Houston 111; Chicago 105, Washington 101; Milwaukee 126, Golden State 108; San Antonio 122, LA Clippers 121 (OT); Utah 120, Denver 110; LA Lakers 142, Portland 115; and Indiana 126, Sacramento 111.

HANDBALL

Post Sports Staff

Victory over England at football may still be a dream to be fulfilled way in the future but at least in handball Israel has established firm superiority over England. Beginning a four game tour of western Europe as part of preparations for the forthcoming European championships next year, Israel's national team scored a handsome 26-18 triumph (13-8 at half-time) over England late on Tuesday night.

The victory was even more meritorious in that the game began within two hours of the Israeli disembarking from their flight from Tel Aviv.

Somach with six goals was top scorer. Raphaeli netting four. At the Supercup tournament in West Germany, world and Olympic handball champions Yugoslavia crushed 26-17 to East Germany. The Soviet Union crushed Romania 28-20 while Hungary edged Sweden 22-21 and West Germany beat Czechoslovakia 17-15.

SCOREBOARD

NHL - Tuesday's games: Detroit 1, Washington 0; New York Islanders 4, Los Angeles 3; Boston 6, Calgary 3; Vancouver 6, Pittsburgh 4.

CRICKET - England beat Pakistan by two wickets in the first of three 45-over cricket internationals in Lahore yesterday. SCORES: Pakistan 166 off 41.3 overs. England 167 for eight off 44.3 overs.

SPORTOTO TIPS

	Single	Perm
1. Hap. Klar Sava v Mac. Haifa	X	X2
2. Mac. Netanya v Hap. Tel Aviv	1	1X
3. Ben Yehuda v Mac. Tel Aviv	2	2
4. Hap. PT v Bet. Tel Aviv	1	1
5. Hap. Bnei Shimon v Mac. PT	1	1X
6. Shimon v Hap. Holon	1	1
7. Bet. Jerusalem v Hap. Lod	1	1
8. Mac. R. Amiel v Bet. Netanya	X	X2
9. Hap. Haifa v Hap. Jerusalem	1	1
10. Hap. Bnei Yehuda v Mac. Yavne	X	X
11. Hap. Yehud v Hap. Haifa	X	X
12. Hap. Ramat Gan v Hap. Tiberias	1	1X
13. Mac. Sha'arim v Hap. Hadera	X	1X
14. Mac. Jaffa v Hap. Acre	1	1

IFA celebrates 60th birthday in style

By JONATHAN KARP

TEL AVIV - The French and Polish national soccer teams are to make their first appearances in Israel this winter as part of the festivities marking the Israel Football Association's (IFA) 60th anniversary. In all, five European sides will be on view here during the winter months.

IFA officials announced yesterday that the Israeli national team will play their first international against Switzerland on December 16, after which they will face Belgium, France and Poland. The last of the five internationals will be

against England on February 17. All matches will be at the 32,000-seat National Stadium in Ramat Gan.

IFA general-manager Ya'akov Erel said he was particularly pleased about bringing France, the defending European champions, and Poland, who will be the third eastern European side to play the national team.

Erel added that the Polish team plan to stay in Israel for two weeks and will also play Romania and another team yet to be announced.

Apart from these 60th anniversary

ry games, Israel's national side is scheduled to host Romania and Malta early next year. Erel noted that all of these matches would help prepare the Israeli side for the Olympic qualifying rounds, which begin on March 6 in Australia and New Zealand.

Tickets for individual games in the anniversary special will cost NIS 30 for seats in the new gallery, NIS 20 for seats in the old gallery and NIS 15 for children and soldiers. Anyone taking advantage of the package deal for all five games, however, will get a 50 per cent discount and pay only NIS 75 for the better seats or NIS 37.50 for the less desirable seats. They will also receive a free umbrella as a gift from Sportoto, one of the event's sponsors.

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Hertz Grossbart
Recitation of the Poems of Yaakov Freedman

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Despite drop in value of its currency

China shows record earnings

By MARK O'NEILL
PEKING (Reuters) - With its currency effectively devalued because it has fallen along with the U.S. dollar, China has managed to achieve record export earnings this year.

Latest figures show exports in the first nine months at \$26.5 billion up 23.9 per cent on a year earlier, while imports were trimmed 3.8 per cent to \$29.2 b., meaning a huge cut in the trade deficit.

Foreign trade has been China's economic success story in 1987, an important victory for the reformist leadership, which at home faces rising inflation, runaway consumer and capital spending and excess issue of money.

China's ambition is to overtake the "four dragons" - Hongkong, Taiwan, Singapore and South Korea, whose new wealth has come largely from exports - and become an economic giant.

"China has not only raised exports and increased foreign exchange earnings," said one western diplomat. "It has diversified its range of exports, making it less vulnerable to erratic commodity prices. It is an impressive achievement."

Exports of machinery and electrical appliances rose more than 50 per cent in the first nine months over the same period in 1986. China now exports televisions to the Middle East, Western Europe and the U.S.

Other items showing impressive growth were cotton and polyester yarn and fibres, porcelain and pottery, garments and shoes as well as canned food, raw cotton, coal and medicines.

Traders say the success is due to

improved management, better understanding of export markets and instructions to boost exports as a top priority.

Another factor is the plunging currency, the renminbi, pegged since July last year at 3.7 to the dollar and quoted at that rate on Monday. It has fallen with the U.S. currency, making China's exports cheaper.

But the export boom may be over, after the plunge on western stock markets, according to Huan Xiang, head of the Centre of International Studies. "An economic recession in the U.S. is probable and worldwide economic depression will be difficult to avert," he said.

"Sales of consumer goods for the rest of the year will not be as good as we expected," one Chinese official said privately.

"There will be spending cuts in the U.S., which will affect Southeast Asia countries, who will therefore buy less of our primary commodities," he said.

The boom has not been all good news for China, which has to subsidize many of its exports, paying concerns the difference between the higher domestic price and the world price.

Chen Wen Hong, an economist with the Centre of Asian Studies at Hongkong University, said export subsidies this year would contribute to China's biggest budget deficit since 1949.

To reduce these subsidies and make export businesses more efficient, China announced last month a reform of its foreign trade system, giving export concerns in light in-

dustrial, handicrafts and garments more autonomy and the right to retain more hard currency and link workers' wages with productivity.

The Washington correspondent of the *Economic Information* newspaper wrote this month that the supermarkets of the U.S. are flooded with goods from South Korea, Hongkong and Taiwan, but products from China were found only in Chinatowns.

"Many Chinese factories can make goods as good as those from Hongkong, Taiwan and South Korea," he said.

To catch up, Chinese exporters must improve their marketing, like the Taiwan manufacturer who produced a plastic Christmas tree that can be re-used for many years, he said.

On the same day, the newspaper printed a report from its Moscow correspondent on the popularity of Chinese goods, especially thermos flasks.

"In the depths of winter, a long queue forms outside a store to buy the thermoses," he said. "The sales clerk tells those at the back of the queue there will be none left for them, but they refuse to leave."

Also popular are Chinese towels, sports shoes, children's dresses, shirts and sweaters, which sell out as soon as they are put on sale, he said.

But China cannot satisfy the demand of Soviet people for its goods because bilateral trade has to be balanced and the two countries cannot easily match imports and exports, he added.

New plant for cellulose use

By JUDY SIEGEL
Post Science and Health Reporter
A member of the cotton family of plants, which has been proposed as a cheap substitute for imported cellulose used in paper manufacture, is being grown experimentally at the Volcani Institute in Beit Dagan. According to researchers there, the trials have so far been very successful, but it will take another year or two to determine if the plant can be put to commercial use.

Called *kenaf* in both English and Hebrew, and *hibiscus calabaricus* in Latin, the plant is an annual and reaches the height of two metres. It produces white flowers and a cotton-like fluff. Researchers in the U.S. are also experimentally growing the plant, which originated in Southeast Asia, in order to determine whether it can be a cheap source of cellulose.

Unlike its thirsty relative, the cotton plant, it does not consume great quantities of water. Through processing, its fibres turn into cellulose, which is one of the constituents of paper. Finding a cellulose source is viewed as very important, because Israel has little space to grow trees for paper, and chopping down trees creates ecological problems.

The *kenaf* grows in summer in tropical areas. Israelis and Americans are trying to get it to flourish in subtropical climates. Institute scientists think it can produce a ton of cellulose per dunam, whose price on the international market is some \$500.

Rim's youth units score at American furniture show

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Rim Industries Ltd. has reported impressive success in the sale of its youth furniture at an exhibit last month called "High Point" in North Carolina. The company markets under the name of Mobilia.

This marks the first time that Rim has displayed its youth-room sets at the largest exhibit of its kind in the world. The company succeeded in closing deals for the sets at a sum of around \$900,000. Its products will be marketed to the largest sales centres in the U.S. and to some of the largest department stores which have never carried this type of merchandise.

Rim credits its success to the excellent modern design of its furniture and to the connections which its representatives have formed. In addition, Rim expects a sales increase of \$1,050,000 from its sales of built-in furniture because of new deals which were closed at the October exhibit.

Rim plans to display its furniture sets in 30 out of 50 well-known American department stores, including Bloomingdale's, A & S and Jordan Marsh.

Energy experts from abroad on visit here

Israeli government officials were this week hosting three foreign delegations here to survey a range of energy issues.

Energy Minister Moshe Shahal met with a contingent from West Germany comprising the president of the country's electric companies, the heads of several of those companies and 30 journalists here to examine the solar energy field.

Other senior Energy Ministry officials are holding talks with a U.S. Department of Energy delegation headed by Assistant Secretary David Waller. Discussion is expected to centre on "various aspects" of R & D cooperation for 1988.

Meanwhile, Tuesday morning a group of senior energy officials from California and Nevada, headed by Chairman of the California Energy Commission Charles Imbrecht, left Israel after a week-long "facts-finding mission" as guests of the Foreign Ministry. This group toured energy sites including Luz Industries' solar test site and Omat's thermo-geological facilities.



A woman covers her mouth with a handkerchief as she passes near piles of uncollected garbage yesterday following a strike of Roman garbage collectors. The dustmen went on strike to demand greater benefits and at the same time cancelled overtime in a sign of protest against authorities.

The Tax Burden/ Jeff Broide

Some burdensome questions

Question from Dr. H. Levius of Netanya
I immigrated to Israel in 1978. After some months I realized that I was not obtaining bank receipts for the conversion of foreign currency into shekels. On querying the matter with the bank, they could not give me the original receipts but did, instead, give me photocopies, signed, stamped and marked "Certified a true copy of the original document in our possession." Could you inform me whether these copies may be used to repurchase foreign currency to be held in a patha account.

Answer:
Generally speaking, in practice, the banks will enable you to repurchase foreign currency on presenting such documents, as indicated in your letter. In fact, it would appear too that the Bank of Israel will also, in many instances, grant approval for certain foreign currency transactions on the basis of similar-type certificates from the commercial banks involved. Therefore, you may certainly repurchase foreign currency with the certificates you mention.

Question from MK of Tel Aviv
I refer to your article "Renting and Saving" in the September 17 edition of *The Jerusalem Post* and should be very much obliged if you could clarify the following questions for me:

Question 1: The article deals with rental income received on a monthly basis. If the entire year's rent is paid in advance in one lump sum, can the 10 per cent option still be exercised, and if so, does the payment have to be made within 30 days of receipt of the lump sum? The rent in this case amounts to US \$300 per-month (payable in NIS), so that the lump sum of course exceeds NIS 1000.

Answer:
The 10 per cent option may still be exercised even where the rental income is received in one lump sum payment in advance. However, the Income Tax payment due must be paid to the tax authorities within thirty days of receipt of the lump sum.

The NIS 1000 per-month limitation is relevant on a monthly basis. Therefore, you may receive up to NIS 12,000 for the year and still be able to enjoy the benefit of this option.

Question 2: The lump sum is due to be paid on December 1, 1987, and so will have to be included in my tax return for the 1987 year. During the tax year to date I have not had any significant outgoings on the apartment, but I will incur certain expenses between now and the year-end amounting to approximately NIS 1,000. Is this an allowable expense against rental income? If so, I assume that since it comprises some 18% of the rental income, it would be better to opt for the usual "net income" taxation than the 10% option. If the expenses are house

improvements, are they allowable against rental income, and what supporting documentation is necessary?

Answer:
Your thinking on this matter is, in fact, quite sound. If the expenses incurred are deductible, and if, in addition to this, one takes into account the 3 per cent depreciation charge allowable against such rental income, then you would appear to be better off under the "old system" and should not exercise the new 10% option, unless you feel it imperative to close your tax file and rather pay more taxes.

However, the house expenses may not be deductible ones if they relate to improvements to the building or premises and are not merely maintenance-type expenses such as painting or fixing up of various other maintenance-type items. If the amount is an overall figure paid to the House Committee *Vaad Bayit* for various maintenance and other type expenses and is appropriately receipted, this would appear to indicate a current, regular type of expense and, therefore, should be deductible, unless it is clearly a capital-type expense.

Question 3: Apart from rental income I have had no other income liable to tax in the current year other than one dividend payment on a government security amounting to NIS 71.62 after deduction of tax at source at the rate of 35 per cent. I have interest on foreign currency patha accounts which is not subject to tax. If I opt for the 10 per cent option on the rental income, will I still have to file a tax return because of the two other factors mentioned? If not, do I have to apply formally to obtain release from the liability to file a return?

Answer:
In the 1986 tax year, individual residents whose income - liable to withholding taxes - was not from work, business or carrying on a trade, and did not exceed NIS 1,944 in that tax year, were exempted from filing tax returns. It would, therefore, seem likely that the tax authorities will exempt you from the obligation to file once you take up the 10 per cent tax on dividend option but, of course, you will need to make the necessary formal application to the tax authorities who, it seems, will in fact grant it as this is, in fact, one of the main purposes of the new law indicated above.

Strictly speaking, of course, the tax authorities may, where the exempt income earned from interest on foreign currency patha accounts is substantial, insist that you do file a tax return, but it seems highly unlikely, in these circumstances, that they will do so. I, therefore, suggest that you make the formal application, linking your application to your decision as to whether you will switch over to the 10 per cent tax option on rental income.

[The writer is a Certified Public Accountant (Israel)]

Japan will suffer pain to cut surplus

TOKYO (Reuters) - Japan will have to suffer considerable pain to reduce its mammoth trade surplus to levels that are acceptable to the rest of the world, a top finance ministry official said recently.

"Some amount of blood will probably have to be let," Vice Finance Minister Toyoo Gyohten told an investment seminar here.

Japan racked up a record \$93 billion dollar trade surplus last year.

Gyohten said Tokyo will have to open up and liberalize markets like agriculture and may also need to reform its complicated distribution system of small retail shops.

Economists said such moves could cause much hardship as many Japanese are employed in the agriculture and retail sectors.

"There is so much more Japan can do," Gyohten said.

He said Japan will have to adopt economic policies to boost its domestic demand and increase its imports in order to help correct the world's lopsided trading patterns.

However, Japan will not be alone in having to endure hardship.

"The United States can no longer be complacent," Gyohten said. "She has to be very aware of the tough situation she faces." Wash-

ington will have to tighten its economic policies in order to further reduce its huge budget and trade deficits, he said.

Gyohten said the U.S. trade deficit had peaked and was on the way down. Recently, America announced that the trade deficit fell to \$14.08 b. in September from \$15.68 b. the previous month.

The Japanese official said he was happy with recent signs of progress in reducing the U.S. budget deficit and expressed hopes of more to come.

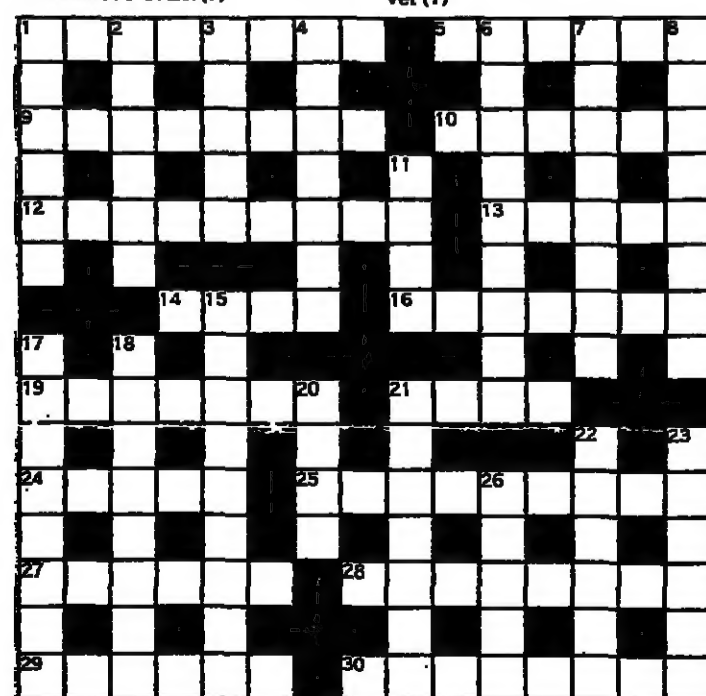
But he added: "We all have a very long way to go."



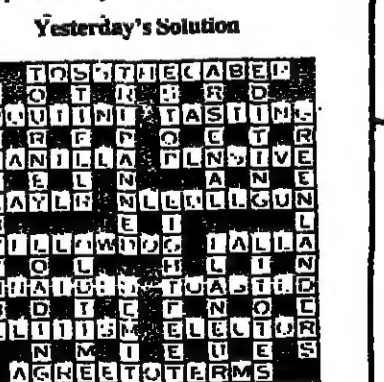
CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1 Can't take a note? It's always the same (2,6)
5 Go back topless and find a way out (6)
9 Weed drama for wee people (4,4)
10 The road is a meeting-place (6)
12 A char isn't disposed to be an advocate of chaos (9)
13 He takes priority over a prior (5)
14 Does the female impersonator pull it off? (4)
16 Happy look of gay Lothario (4,3)
19 Work at home with one on view (7)
21 What anglers use as perches (4)
24 Duck out of meeting the Armada? Not he! (5)

- DOWN
2 Antique musical manuscripts deserve punishing treatment (3,6)
3 They play a minor role in producing special editions (6)
4 Made rare sort of sugar (8)
6 Minute portion and not quite the best quality (5)
8 Insisted on a dessert being prepared (8)
11 Fair description of a good man (3,3)
12 Repeated insistence on one's ability to dance (6)
13 Up the top of the house in no time at all, we hear (6)
14 Follow up Heather with a revolver (7)



- 6 What employment agencies can do to help (4,1,4)
7 In the finale an aristocrat becomes morally elevated (8)
8 Succulent vegetable growing in a flower-bed (5,5)
11 He hopes to make a quick buck (4)
12 Create a terrible fuss by resurrecting Abel's murderer (5,4)
17 Glad tidings proclaimed by the evangelists (4,4)
18 Performed on stage before one hundred to be instructive (8)
20 Recess caused by failure to secure sanction (4)
21 Get back in gear and remedy the situation (7)
22 Utterly true worker would not play it (6)
23 Where the Northern gods like to draw back (8)
26 From where a secret escape was planned by Daedalus (6)



- YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION
ACROSS: 1 Suites, 4 Elder, 8 Rida, 9 Escute, 10 Current, 11 Edge, 12 Hip, 14 Isle, 15 Omit, 18 Dua, 21 Envy, 23 Spectre, 25 Austria, 26 Feral, 27 Tide, 28 Blamed. DOWN: 1 Strict, 2 Informa, 3 Elevated, 4 Even, 5 Druid, 6 Renfer, 7 Fleck, 13 Powerful, 16 Interim, 17 Repeat, 19 Essay, 20 Sealed, 22 Vain, 24 Brie.

QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
1 Tanned hide (7)
5 Spirits (5)
8 Top of the milk (5)
9 Segregate (7)
10 Debauchee (9)
12 Nigerian tribesman (3)
13 Fanciful (6)
14 Overseas (6)
17 Finish (3)
18 Without exception (9)
20 Lost one's footing (7)
21 Indian stringed instrument (5)
23 Cheerless (5)
24 Sanction (7)

- DOWN
1 In the vicinity (5)
2 Imitate (3)
3 Commemorate (7)
4 Dried grape (6)
5 Cooker (9)
6 Of one mind (9)
7 Body-building compound (7)
11 Substance level (9)
13 Clothed (7)
15 Consecrated (7)
16 Swindle (6)
18 Higher (5)
19 Big (5)
22 Hill (3)

Builders offer their cost data to ministry

Jerusalem Post Reporter
Representatives of the Federation of Building Contractors met recently with Director-General of the Industry and Commerce Ministry Yoram Belisovski. They discussed the possibility of exchanging statistical data regarding cost increases of building material before ministry decisions are finalized.

The representatives also brought up the problem of the iron shortage, which has caused numerous problems for the federation.

Energy Ministry to share solar unit inspection bills

People who have their solar heaters inspected will have 80 per cent of the bill paid for by the Ministry of Energy, the Israel Building Centre spokesperson announced this week. The inspections will be conducted by the Centre's Advisory Board for Energy Conservation. The money will be given after inspection and repairs have been made to ensure the heating system's efficiency.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

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Tel Aviv: Pilosdorf, 22 Nahalat Binyamin, 624088; Sanitas, 63 Ibn Gabirol, 248003.
Ra'anana-Kfar Sava: Gilead, 34 Weizmann, Kfar Sava.
Netanya: Harnagan, 13 Sderot Weizmann, 22985.
Kiryat Yovel: Nitzan, Mordechai Namir, Kfar Nitzan, Kiryat Yovel, 751880.
Haifa: Yavne, 7 Ibn Sina, 672288.

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Ten years later

TODAY it is exactly ten years that the late President Anwar Sadat embarked on his historic peace mission to Jerusalem, bridging over decades of hatred and hostility in a one-hour flight. If one recalls the euphoria that swept Israel in those days, a euphoria that was shared by a large part of the Egyptian people and ignited the imagination of the whole world, it is difficult to believe that ten years later we are still groping for sophisticated formulas that are supposed to take Israel's peace with Egypt to its next stage.

Without denigrating the enormous achievement of that peace, the history of these ten years is unfortunately one of missed opportunities by all parties concerned. Each side — Israel, Egypt, the Palestinians, Jordan and also the U.S. — must share the blame for the virtual standstill in the peace process in varying degrees.

Israel, for one, never followed up in earnest on former premier Menachem Begin's autonomy proposal because it would have meant real self-rule for the Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the drastic curtailment of new settlements and a real option to decide on the future status of the territories at the conclusion of five years. To begin with, Sadat was deeply disappointed by Begin's persistent refusal to accept any formula that would entail recognition of the Palestinians' legitimate rights, a phrase he approved and signed, albeit reluctantly, in the 1978 Camp David accords. Hence, the dismal failure of the December 1977 Israel-Egyptian encounter in Ismailiya, where the top leadership of both countries met in direct talks that ended in disagreement.

Less than five years later, Israel put Egypt to a most difficult test by going to war in Lebanon after having embarked on a huge settlement drive which was the exact opposite of the promised goodwill measures in the territories.

Egypt, for its part, kept the peace with Israel cool and often disappointing, thus weakening the voices of reason and moderation in this country. It also displayed time and again a total lack of sensitivity for Israel's legitimate concerns, such as in the handling of the tragic Ras Burka incident and its aftermath which still has not been resolved. Cairo also failed to recognize the opportunities for progress in the peace process when Labour's Shimon Peres headed Israel's government and played the Tabla game almost to the very end of Peres's premiership.

The Palestinians, as has been their wont for decades, joined the rejectionist front and failed to recognize the political opportunities that were inherent in accepting the autonomy scheme. They thus freed Begin and his colleagues from any obligation to hold the settlement drive and to introduce various measures that would have given expression to Palestinian nationhood as provided by the Camp David agreements.

Jordan's King Hussein, for reasons of his own, joined the rest of the Arab world that chastized Sadat's Egypt for making peace with Israel and failed to assume the significant role allotted to him in the West Bank and Gaza Strip at Camp David. His subsequent attempts to come to terms with Yasser Arafat and to reach agreement on a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation for peace talks have failed to produce results to this very day.

The U.S. remained hamstrung during crucial attempts to revive the peace process by Washington's reluctance to assume a top-level, high profile mediation role that would have emulated former President Carter's Camp David example, without which no progress towards peace in the Middle East can be made. Now that Egypt has returned to the Arab fold — or rather most of the Arab states have returned to Cairo — just during the week that one marks the tenth anniversary of Sadat's historic journey, the time has come for serious stock-taking by all concerned so that another ten years should not be allowed to go by without expanding the peace in this part of the world, lest the Middle East would once more be thrown into the chaos of war.

THE MORNING AFTER

The Interior Ministry has notified Palestinian non-violence activist Mubarak Awad that he must leave the country by tomorrow, when his tourist visa expires.

The first question that the officials concerned should ask themselves is where could Awad do more "harm" to Israel, in Jerusalem or in Washington?

On his return to the U.S., he will no doubt become a "hero" in the eyes of many Americans. Public gatherings, debates and endless meetings with the press will follow.

Left to his own devices in Jerusalem, Awad is hardly more than a nuisance. Few people in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem support his theories of non-violence. Anyone seeking proof of this will find it in the violence that is increasing from day to day.

But beyond its self-defeating aspects, this ill-considered move clashes with the basic right of a person to share the fate of his people and to stand for his convictions, as long as he does not advocate violence.

YEHUDA LITANI

AWAD

(Continued from Page One)

similar cases, Palestinians are denied...through the means of legal tricks, the basic right to live and remain in their homeland."

Awad, 44, was born in Jerusalem, but his local resident status was revoked by the Interior Ministry in August on grounds that he had spent an extended period in the U.S. and acquired American citizenship. On Wednesday, the ministry notified Awad that it would not renew his three-month tourist visa which expires tomorrow, and that he would have to leave the country by that date.

The moves are an apparent response to Awad's advocacy of civil disobedience and nonviolent resistance to Israeli occupation in the territories, using the methods of Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King. In an article entitled "Non-Violent Resistance — A Strategy for the Occupied Territories" Awad proposed such action as refusing to work in Israel, pay taxes, or fill out Israeli forms, lying down in front of bulldozers clearing land for settlements, and boycotting Israeli products.

Hebrew University professor Edy Kaufman said Israeli supporters of Awad were considering staying with him round the clock when he awaited deportation, and handcuffing themselves to him if police come to take him away.

There are Jews even in the governing coalition who think in similar ways, and it is inconceivable that only because of his different ethnic origin, he has no right to stay here," he said.

MK Matti Peled (Progressive List for Peace) said thousands of Jews in Israel had foreign citizenship, and had not been asked to leave. The Israeli government would raise a storm of protest if a Jew were told to leave the U.S. because he had residence in Israel, he said.

"This discriminatory policy fundamentally negates the fundamental principles on which the Jewish state was established," he said.

Kaufman read a letter from MK Yossi Sarid (Citizens Rights) who said the decision to compel Awad to leave was "stupid and malicious" and betrayed the "confusion and fear" Awad's tactics had created among the Israeli occupation authorities.

Dedi Zucker (Citizens Rights) said he felt "ashamed" as an Israeli and a Jew by the moves against Awad.

Observers suggested last night that the combined American and Foreign Ministry pressure, as well as the absence of Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Peres, both of whom are abroad, would probably lead to a "stay of execution" at least until they return home.

Who gains, who loses in the TV strike

Allan E. Shapiro

ARE WE turned off when we tune out — that is when radio and TV go off the air? That is a real question in this country, where politics is such a spectator sport. By and large, we have few illusions about our ability, as a public, to influence the course of events. Still, we keep an eye on what is going on like no other people in the world.

Ordinarily, we are so apprehensive about the influence of the media in politics that we don't even let our political candidates be seen or heard during an election campaign, except during the allotted time for party propaganda. But maybe it doesn't matter one way or the other, these days. What is going on anyway?

In Britain, the "shadow government" is what they call the opposition team ready to go into action with a change of party control in Parliament. Here, "shadow government" seems like an apt description of the government in office. Even if the Broadcasting Authority journalists did not have a wage dispute, they might have reason enough to stop covering the activities of the government, because there is so little to cover. Our leadership went on strike long before those who report on what the leaders are doing did.

The prime minister, Yitzhak Shamir, has said that he can live without television. No wonder. What underground leader likes publicity, and for Shamir the state is a sovereign underground. Of course, it is only an illusion that the office of prime minister is vacant. Still, it seems to be very carefully protected from public view.

Actually, Shamir projects well on TV. He seems at ease, or at least, to be himself, which may not be the same thing for everyone. The overall impression is that of solidity, which is a plus for a political leader, inspiring a certain instinctive reaction of trust. Yes, solid is the word, which also includes an imperious resistance to new ideas and

some problems in comprehending old ones.

Shimon Peres plays around with ideas all the time. His problem is that it often looks as though he is only playing around with them. For him, Israel is the most interesting country in the world, as he declared in his Rosh Hashana interview, as though he were telling us that it is good theatre. But one wonders if he enjoys being on camera. It seems like a skill he has acquired, and the effort still shows. The mask-like effect is part of the credibility problem that has dogged him for years.

Still, his side in the great national debate suffers most from the election black-out. Shamir operates best confirming prevailing preconceptions. He strengthens the faith of the believers. The target of his TV appearances is morale, not reflection.

Here Peres is at a disadvantage. The Labour party leader has a rational argument to make, and he needs an audience, if there is to be hope of convincing anyone. The problem when he has one, is that the TV medium lends itself much more to the achieving of Shamir's aim than to that of Peres, hitting the emotions with far greater impact than the intellect.

THE SECOND-LINE politicians are heavy losers from the current strike. For them, a black-out is virtual annihilation. This is especially true with regard to the talkers in both major parties — the Roni Milos and Haim Ramons, for example. They seem to have been taken out of circulation like Queen Nur on Jordan TV during the Amman stag-party, the Extraordinary Arab Summit.

The political opposition also have a problem, as they are, by definition, talkers and not doers. A no-

confidence motion must seem a particularly futile exercise these days, with no hope of coverage on *Mabat*.

On the positive side, the Broadcasting Authority strike may have lowered the general level of hypocrisy in politics. To their credit, our media have not cultivated the American variety of hypocrisy, delving into the private lives of public figures. If Israel pretended to the sort of morality that figured in the Gary Hart affair, we might reduce the number of contenders for election to the Knesset far more effectively than by raising the 1 per cent cut-off requirement. Nor would a candidate for public office be barred here for having tried marijuana a decade or two ago, unless perhaps he had blown his *kippa*. Livening up the evening news with nuggets of this sort has never been an Israeli addiction.

Still, the electronic media do promote a hypocrisy of sorts. Public issues are presented in a format of confrontation — either through representatives of opposing sides or by a courtroom-style interrogation that passes for an interview. Heat, rather than light, is the major outcome.

The Landau report on the GSS was probably more quietly received because of the strike. Instead of the TV confrontations, with the hypocritical point-scoring of the confrontation format, there was a reasoned press debate, which, however, reached far fewer than would have been the case in normal times.

Which these times definitely are not. The very existence of a government of national unity, let alone of the underground variety of the Shamir premiership, is itself a suspension of democratic rule and of the rules of democracy. In effect, parliamentary responsibility is called off for the duration. Dare we also suspend the only effective responsibility that remains — the responsibility to the people, through the media?

The writer is a political scientist.

READERS' LETTERS

HOLOCAUST MEMORIALS IN WEST BERLIN

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
 Sir, — As Ari Rath reports on November 10, the Berlin Senate has now made the welcome decision to turn the Wannsee villa into a permanent museum of the Holocaust. Readers of Mr. Rath's article, however, might get the impression that this was an isolated decision achieved by a small group of determined journalists resisting widespread apathy.

On the contrary, the decision must be seen against the background of the very extensive activity carried out in West Berlin for decades already to commemorate and educate about the Holocaust and all the misdeeds of the Nazi period. Being a native of post-war Berlin and now an ordained minister of the Protestant Church of West Berlin, I have witnessed throughout my life the great efforts of both the school system and the churches to educate West Berliners about the Nazi past and prevent any recurrences.

For the schools, the Centre for Political Education provides films, collections of slides and booklets, including incidentally excellent 60-page booklets on *The History of the Jewish People* and *The State of Israel*. Similar materials for my church are provided by the Office for Protestant Religious Instruction in the Konsistorium, its ruling body. The Protestant Academy and the Institute for Church and Judaism also play a role. So do the corresponding bodies of the Catholic Church.

Twice a year, the West Berlin Senate and the churches organize meetings and exhibitions throughout the city. One is on or about November 9, which Mr. Rath still

calls by the old name of *Kristallnacht*. Today, however, we refer to it as *Reichspogromnacht*, because *Kristallnacht* was the self-glorifying name adopted by the Nazis, whereas we feel that the name itself should reflect the shame.

The other occasion is the "Week of Brotherhood" between Christians and Jews in March.

In most years, some anniversary provides the occasion for a major exhibition to recall and warn about the past.

There are already numerous sites where the terrible events of the Nazi period are commemorated. Bus tours to these sites are available for both Berliners and visitors.

On the site of the former Gestapo headquarters, a permanent exhibition is to stand. A church in Siemensstadt, whose courtyard contains frescoes expressing Christian identification with the sufferings of the Holocaust, serves as a centre of commemorative activities by Protestants and Catholics. Nearby is a monastery where Carmelite nuns pray constantly to atone for the sins committed in the Holocaust. Outside the central Protestant cathedral is a signpost with signs pointing to the various death camps. And so on.

In view of all this, it may be easier for Mr. Rath to understand why past Mayor Klaus Schutz and present Mayor Diepgen were unsure whether to add the Wannsee villa to the many existing forms of commemoration. Both of them are indeed known as good friends of the Berlin Jewish community and of Israel.

REV. PETRA HELDT
 Jerusalem.

JEWISH DEMOGRAPHIC DECLINE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post

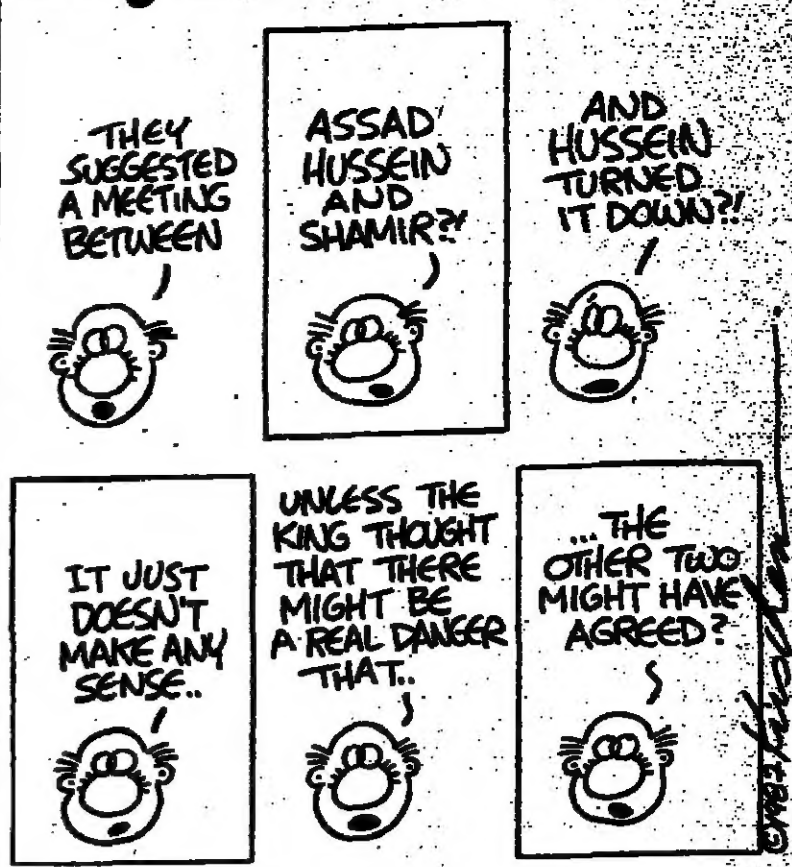
Sir — Charles Hoffman's recent article about Jewish demographic decline outside Israel omitted one important point. In highly secularized Western milieus, where Jews intermarry in large numbers, the gentiles themselves are reproducing at below group replacement rates. This undoubtedly stems from the libertarian ethic, to which Mr. Hoffman referred, which middle and upper class gentiles, like their Jewish counterparts, have embraced.

Thus, even if intermarriage produces more Jews than would otherwise be the case — a claim disputed in any event — the chances are it will only slow the overall decrease, not compensate for it.

It is increasingly clear that the long-term future of the Jews, especially (but not only) in the Diaspora, rests with those Jewish groups and individuals who subscribe to traditional religious values and practices. Many people may find this uncomfortable to contemplate. However, the numbers speak for themselves.

SETH A. HALPERN
 Scarsdale, N.Y.

Dry Bones



Lure of profits has an explosive effect

Bernard Josephs

THE WORLD'S heart skipped a beat yesterday when Iran evoked the memory of Chernobyl after Iraqi jets reduced its unfinished nuclear power station to rubble.

Dark recollections of the hideous effects of radiation poisoning and of European shoppers being warned that such prosaic foods as Brussels sprouts and lamb could endanger their families came to the fore.

But the odds are that not everyone shared in that moment of dread. In fact in boardrooms all over the world pin-stripe suited gentlemen who no doubt love their children as much as you or I, stand to do very nicely from this latest example of tit-for-tat madness in the Gulf War. For supplying nuclear facilities to countries whose off-the-wall leaders should not be trusted with as much as a bow and arrow has become an extremely profitable business.

Only a few months ago Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq Al-Mahdi boasted that his capital Khartoum was the centre of the nuclear materials market where anyone could pick up a kilo of enriched uranium for \$3 million, no questions asked.

The former head of Sudan's state security set-up, in an interview with British TV, said that out of six transactions over the past seven years, the identities of three of the buyers were unknown. But, he added, last summer five kilos of the stuff from which atomic nightmares are made were sold to Iraq, Iran and Israel.

International Atomic Energy Agency officials have stated baldly that any country wanting to go nuclear within the next decade, will be able to do so. All this, of course, suggests big profits for European and other Western companies who are not too fussy about where the money comes from, as long as it pleases their shareholders.

THE IRANIAN nuclear facility smashed by Iraq was built by a German corporation, Kraftwerk Union. According to reports, work stopped when the mullahs took over in 1979. Nevertheless, a West German engineer apparently connected to the company, was one of the people killed in the attack.

It was a French firm that built the infamous Osirak reactor near Baghdad which was demolished by Israeli war planes in 1981, following mounting evidence that Iraq was using it to build bombs and not to power its cities.

In August, French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac personally assured Israel that his country had no intention of rebuilding the reactor, despite convincing evidence to the contrary from the satirical magazine *Le Canard Enchaîné*.

Just a few years back Belgium was considering a \$1 billion deal to construct a nuclear power plant for Libya which, in September, described nuclear weapons as "legitimate" in the Middle East. Apparently the deal was cancelled after the White House ordered pressure to be applied on Brussels.

Of course, it is nothing new for refined and personally pleasant merchants to be dealing in death and destruction, even against the direct interests of their own country. In World War I, for instance, the profit motive was considered sufficiently important for one British company to supply boots to the Germans.

In those days war was, perhaps, a more distant affair. Today the implications are clear. By selling matches to the pyromaniacs of the nuclear age we are all likely to get burnt.

The writer is a member of The Jerusalem Post editorial staff.

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